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THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts. Music and the Drama.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1877.

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POYAL SCHOOL of MINES. — Dr. FrankLand, D. J. F. R. will commence a Course of THIRTY
LETTERS on 'ORGANIC CHEMISTRY,' at South Kensington,
MONDAY MEXT. January 18bb, at Ten O'clock, to be continued on
an succeeding Wednesday, Friday, and Monday, at the same Hour.
The, St. to those who have attended the previous Course, 32
TRENHAM REEKS, Registrar.

ROYAL INSTITUTION of GREAT BRITAIN,
ALBEMARLE-STREET, PICCADILLY, W.
Lecture Hour, Three P.M.

TUESDAY, January 16. - Prof. ALFRED H. GARROD, M.A. P.R.S. - First of Ten Lectures' On the Human Form: its Structure in Esistion to its Contour.' One Guinea the Course.

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"HURSDAY, January 18.—Dr. C. R. ALDER-WRIGHT, F.C.S.—
"jint of Four Lectures" On Metals, and the chief Industrial Uses of
these Bodies and their Compounds. Half-a-Guines.

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SATURDAY. January 20.—ERNST PAUER, Esq.—First of Two
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Schools' With Pianoforte Illustrations. Half-a-Guinea.
(Subscription for all the Courses in the Season, Two Guineaa.)

FRIDAY EVENING. January 19. Nine P.M.—Professor TYNDALL On a Combat with an Infective Atmosphere.

BITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—The FOURTH MEETING of the SES-ION will be
half on WEDNESDAY NEXT, JURIANITY IT, at 23, Societille street, W.
Guire to "The Sheet Chank, Ancient and Modern," by J. W. Grover,
Bet.— Singburg Stoneware, by H. Syer Quming, Enq. F. S.A. Societies, W. D. E. GREY BIROH, F. R. S.L.,
W. D. E. P. LOFTUS BRUCK, F. S.A.,
Secretaries.

HAKLUYT SOCIETY (Established for the ARLUXI SOUTEIX (Established to rate and Tarvels). The lases, work issued to members is The THREE VOYAGES of WILLIAM EAREWYS to the ARCTIO REGIONS, 19846. Second Edition, with an Introduction, by Licutenant Koolemans Bequen (Korjal Netherland Navy).—Prospectuses of the Society and List of Works issued may be obtained from the Society's Agent, Mr. RICHARDS, S., Great Quene-livest, London, W.O.

THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY of GREAT BRITAIN, 11, Chandon-street, Cavendish-square, W.—TRURS-DAY next, 1881 inst. at 873, Paper by Professor PLUM PTER, 'The Buman Voice regarded Psychologically,' Discussion will follow. FRANDIS K. MUNTON, Hon. Sec.

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A small Cabinet of Coins, old Silver Plate, and some hand-some Jewels.

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Colours; also many capital Drawings by John Varley—Sketches by
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Decorative Objects and Pictures, the Property of the late HENRY COOKE, Esq.

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The Collection of Objects of Art and Vertin of the late MISS RIGBY.

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respectfully give notice that they will SELL by AUOTION, on

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ELLEN RIGEY, decessed, late of Esber, comprising a few Anciest
and Modern Pictures and Drawings—Old Italian and French Brouss,

Clocks, and Candelebra—Marbies and other Decorative Objects.

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Collection of Objects of Art and Vertis of a Barones, deceased.

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The Works of the late SKINNER PROUT.

The Works of the late SAIANBER PROUT.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS respectfully give notice that they will SELL by AUCTION, on MONDAY, P-bruary 36, and Following Day (by order of the Escentor), the whole of the remaining DRA WINGS and 85 KTOHES of J. SKINNER PROUT, deceased, comprising a large number of Jastralian and Tasmanian Sketches, made in those Colonies.

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LITERATURE

The Raja of Saráwak: an Account of Sir James Brooke, K.C.B., LL.D., given chiefly through Letters and Journals. By Gertrude L. Jacob. 2 vols. (Macmillan & Co.)

THE author, as she herself tells us, has aimed at making this book as far as possible the Raja's autobiography; she has not attempted a general summary of his character, or an estimate of the importance of his work. Accordingly the volumes are almost entirely a compilation; Sir James Brooke's own letters, journals, and speeches, a Parliamentary bluebook, and other papers, together with sundry letters from private friends who had some information to supply, forming the materials with which Miss Jacob has constructed her narrative, and to which she has added very little original matter of her own. Much of what is here published anew has, indeed, been printed before; Miss Jacob very properly acknowledges this in her Preface, reminding her readers that Sir James Brooke's letters to Mr. Templer, his life-long friend, from 1838 to 1853, were given to the world in 1854, while Admiral Keppel in 1847, and Admiral Mundy in 1848, each made extensive use of the journals which Raja Brooke had written from 1839 to 1846. We mention these points with no desire to detract from the author's work, but because, in judging of a literary edifice, we must take account of the foundations on which it rests, and the materials employed, as well as of the workmanship, design, and ornamentation. Miss Jacob deserves praise; she is accurate, careful, and industrious-a lady, if we may judge her by her present work, of marked ability and common sense. But, to speak honestly, something more than the qualities which we have named-something which it was impossible for Miss Jacob to possess-is essential to the production of a really successful biography of Raja Brooke. A writer of literary skill would seize the leading episodes in Sir James Brooke's life, would recognize the incidents which possess a lasting interest and importance, and, while treating these with fulness of detail, would pass lightly over much which, in Miss Jacob's book, obtains a greater prominence than it deserves. The fact is, that so long as the author had the Raja's previously published journals to draw upon-that is,

from 1839 (when Brooke was thirty-six years of age, and his career of extraordinary adventure just beginning) to 1846—the narrative is elaborate and picturesque, if not thoroughly complete; but, as she candidly tells us, after that date "we have no journal to fill up the intervals, and for fuller information must wait ...for Mr. Spenser St. John's promised book." Miss Jacob's biography lacks completeness on many points which the public would most desire to understand-points which could only be properly elucidated by one who has lived at Saráwak, had access to its official records, and carefully consulted the native authorities. When the scene lies in Saráwak the account is often vague, for a private letter can seldom convey the whole story; whereas, when the drama is shifted to England, during the Raja's not infrequent visits home, the details are sometimes needlessly full, obviously because there are in England many persons still living to whom Miss Jacob could apply for particulars. We should have liked to have seen Sir James Brooke's life and labours in Borneo more copiously treated, some more systematic effort made to show how it was that, in 1859, he spoke of himself bitterly as "a man whose life and its noble objects have been betrayed." -betrayed, that is, by the policy of the English Government. Sir James Brooke's career was a noble and unselfish one; he did an immense deal for Saráwak, which is now a flourishing settlement, but he tried to do more than it was possible for him to accomplish; he was a British subject, and he could not denationalize himself as the law then stood, so that his position as an independent Raja was anomalous, and for this, and for several other grave reasons, the successive British administrations who considered his case, though they committed one or two serious errors, could not with propriety act as Sir James Brooke wished them to act. Miss Jacob does not make any deliberate and onesided attack on the colonial policy of this country, but she does not manage to bring out in an instructive manner the peculiarities of the Sarawak case. The reader gains from her pages a pretty thorough insight into what Raja Brooke wanted, but the statesmen who found themselves unable to accede to his requests that Saráwak should be formally recognized, and that our men of-war should co-operate in suppressing the inter-tribal raids of the Dyak freebooters, had very strong grounds for adopting a cautious policy, and their side of the question has hardly received sufficient justice at Miss Jacob's hands. This topic may some day be treated in a much more elaborate, a much more historical, manner. A British subject made himself de facto ruler of a semiindependent feudatory Malay State, and asked his sovereign to recognize him in that position. But this is not all; there was our treaty with the Dutch of 1824, which has not yet been wholly abrogated, and which contained certain ill-defined restrictions on the extension of British territory and influence in the Malay Archipelago: there was probably at Saráwak itself all along a certain amount of imbecile opposition and intrigue against Raja Brooke's authority on the part of sundry displaced chiefs, who, bad as they may have been, were still the hereditary and customary rulers; lastly, there was the Sultan at Bruné, the lord paramount over Saráwak, whose govern-

ment was disorganized, whose dominions swarmed with pirates and rebellious tribes, and who very possibly, if the Malay usages were thoroughly sifted out, would be found to have had no power to confer the government of Saráwak upon Sir James Brooke for a longer term than his (the Sultan's) own life. It is rather singular that, in the present book, no copies of the original grants and patents to Raja Brooke have been published. At any rate, we should have liked to have had, to put the case in its true light, extracts from any correspondence which may have passed between our Foreign Office and the Netherlands Government as to the recognition of the independence of Saráwak, and to have learnt, more fully than we can ascertain from Sir James Brooke's own letters, what the authorities at Bruné, or the native chiefs at Saráwak, may have thought or said during all the years that the official confirmation of Sir James Brooke's power in perpetuity by England was being agitated. The present work is certainly not a short one, but the fulness which we desire in particular portions of it might have been obtained without unduly enlarging the volumes had other sections been made more concise. The seventy pages which are taken up with Brooke's early life might have been greatly compressed, for there is really nothing in them of any special interest. Occasionally letters are inserted which discuss religion, moral philosophy, or European politics-questions on which Raja Brooke probably wrote nothing worth preserving. As we are bound to support this opinion with at least one instance, and have no space for more, we will refer to vol. ii., pp. 309-11.

A good account of Sir James Brooke would have been really valuable had it been published about eighteen months ago, when the disturbances in Perak were bringing the question of how best to deal with independent native States prominently to the front. This was exactly the problem which Brooke practically solved in Saráwak. The British in India, or the Dutch in Java, can readily effect what reforms they please, because they are in actual territorial possession, and have troops to support them. But if an isolated English Resident has no force majeure at his back, in a country already brought to the verge of ruin by the feuds of rival chiefs, overrun by landpirates and sea-pirates, where there is no law, no labour, no capital, where Chinese secret societies cabal for the mastery, and where an intruding foreigner has to live in daily fear of assassination, the task of reform is by no means so easy. Single-handed Brooke got possession of the Saráwak Government, yet the exact circumstances under which this was finally and fully accomplished form one of those points which Miss Jacob has failed to clear up. There is a mystery about the transaction, for Oriental potentates, such as these Borneo chiefs, are not the men to knowingly yield up their power and revenues for ever from an enlightened sense of what is best for their people; absolute violence, however, or even threats of violence, seem to have been little, if at all, resorted to. Be this as it may, Sir James Brooke, having once achieved pos-session, undoubtedly used his power and spent his revenues in a manner worthy of all praise, labouring with singleness of heart for the welfare of the natives, and loyally upholding

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their rights and interests at the sacrifice of all individual aggrandizement to the close of his life. That Brooke must have owed his extraordinary personal influence over the Malays and Dyaks with whom he came in contact to the exceptional force of his character is obvious, but by what contrivances he overcame the difficulties which beset him, how he brought order out of chaos, and kept the engine of government satisfactorily working under European superintendence with native machinery, are points of great interest which are not explained. Mr. Birch tried the same thing lately in Perak under vastly superior auspices; but his efforts resulted in a humiliating failure and the loss of his own life. Other such cases might be referred to, for the art of administering well an independent native province is not so easy as some might suppose, and calls for special aptitudes. An energetic educated European brings down the hostility of the chiefs and people by honest attempts to do too much. He tries to cut a new road, to improve the coinage, to summarily extirpate debt slavery, to back up the pushing missionary, to substitute a scientific code of laws for the clumsy indigenous procedure, to re-organize the finances; the consequence is that the inhabitants get worried, frightened, and annoyed by extra trouble, extra taxes, and uncomfortable interference with their old ways. The man of enterprise thus finds himself speedily at a dead-lock with the local authorities, and passively thwarted by the body of the population. He fails, and a single failure robs him once for all of any chances of success. On the other hand, a man of an indolent or vacillating type will never accomplish anything at all. Instead of slowly raising the natives, he is himself gradually dragged down to their level. He can make no headway amid intrigue and corruption, even supposing that he possesses the high moral character needful to avoid yielding to the efforts made to influence him by bribes or flattery. The story of Raja Brooke's local administration deserves to be related in full. How far, for example, did he succeed in rendering bribery no longer essential to the success of a law-suit? What difficulties had he from defective coinage and the circulation of bad money? How did he deal with the Chinese immigrants and their turbulent secret societies, who only once attempted a serious rising during the whole of his career? What progress was made in managing the revenues as the population increased? This last question is specially important, for when he had been some sixteen years established in the country, when the number of inhabitants had increased enormously, and though he had spent from 30,000l. to 40,000l. of his own private fortune in Saráwak, we learn that the kingdom was not yet rich enough to buy even one small steamer, of which it stood in urgent need. For complete information on these and similar topics we must seek elsewhere than in Miss Jacob's book. As to the steamer, we doubt whether poverty was the real reason which for so many years delayed its purchase. Such a vessel could have been obtained by a subscription among the natives and the contributions of wealthy philanthropists in England if, as was indeed true, it was of such vital importance for the promotion of commerce to clear the creeks of pirates. The real difficulty, we suspect, lay in the question whether it was legal for a British subject to carry on petty warfare in a gunboat of his own.

Raja Brooke was a man of warm sympathies and great kindness of heart. His temper was by nature turbulent, his spirit adventurous and independent; but the most extraordinary feature in his character was the completeness with which he controlled his natural tendency to anger. This must have been one of the secrets of his success. The Siamese, when he went to Siam, tried every possible means to put him in a passion. Yet the remembrance of his imperturbability endures there to this day. He was patient, persever-ing, and self-reliant. His judgment was perhaps defective on large questions, but he had great capacity for minor details; and though originally but poorly educated, he was a careful and extensive reader, and, at any rate, always knew his own subjects better than anybody else. It is needless to add that he was a man of high courage, unselfish, and of an integrity that no temptations could ever shake. On religious matters his opinions were decidedly liberal, and he had the sagacity to perceive early in his career that missionaries whose enthusiasm outran their discretion, whose zeal rendered them intolerant and aggressive, would ruin the success of his Saráwak project.

We may call attention to one or two accidental errors in the text of the book. In wol. i., page 94, "Murray" should be "M—", or "M—", a few lines further down, should be "Murray," according as it was intended or not to conceal the name of the individual referred to. Vol. ii., page 21, "Mungkuk" should be "Mungkut," or, perhaps more correctly, "Mongkut." Page 38, surely the deputy-sheriff was not a "messenger" of the Bankruptcy Court. Was not the office really referred to that of "Official Assignee"? Page 195, "rampongs" should be "kampongs." There is a pretty full Index, for which we are grateful. Nevertheless, we broke down at once in the only attempt which we made to use it, for under "Dutch" there is no reference to the important despatch from Holland to Lord Aberdeen about Sir James Brooke's doings. The document is certainly classified under Dedel, but then few persons would remember that Monsieur Dedel was the minister who wrote

the despatch.

Records of the Coinage of Scotland. Collected by R. W. Cochran-Patrick. 2 vols. (Edmonston & Dauglas.)

THERE is no class of coins which, at the present time, has a higher market value, or arouses more interest among antiquaries, than the Scottish. The real cause of the exceptional interest taken in this series in particular is, perhaps, less its intrinsic importance than the national feeling and mutual emulation of a group of Scottish antiquaries. Nevertheless, the Scottish coins do possess interest, and their history is no unimportant part of the history of the country. Mr. Cochran-Patrick has already given, in successive numbers of the Numismatic Chronicle, a summary of the results to which he has been led by a study of the matter relating to coinage contained in the Scottish Acts of Parliament, Exchequer

Rolls, &c., and now publishes this matter in extenso with copious Introduction and notes. It is clear that he has performed his task of research and collection in such a way that it will not for a long time have to be done again, and this is high praise. But to the Introduction still higher may be accorded. It contains in brief space a summary of all the important facts in the history of Scottish money, an account of the processes of coining, of the officers of the mint, of the course of fiscal legislation, together with a précis of all the documents contained in the body of the two volumes. It is at once terse and accurate, and the fulness of the references at the foot indicates a writer whose one care is to convey to his readers the utmost amount of information in return for the smallest amount of honest

Ordinary numismatists concern themselves chiefly with the attribution and classification of coins; while to philosophical students of history the mint regulations and the state of the currency at various periods are of great interest. Both classes of students will find much that is new in the documents brought together by Mr. Cochran-Patrick. Numismatists will have henceforward to acknowledge that the long-cross pennies, bearing the name of Alexander, were in great part issued by Alexander the Second, and not all of them by Alexander the Third, as has been commonly supposed. Much light, too, is shed by documents now first brought forward on the hitherto almost hopeless question of the proper distribution of the pieces of the first four Jameses. But it is to the student of history, and of numismatics in strict subordination to history,

that these "records" will be most grateful.

It is an index of the backward character of early Scottish civilization that we have no positive proofs of any money being issued before the time of David the First (1124), who issued sterlings of the weight of thirty-two wheat-corns. Up to that time we may suppose, not so much that an elaborate system of barter prevailed, as that each family produced all its own necessaries, so that, in fact, trade scarcely existed-a state of things which still exists among some of the Asiatic Turks. The early moneyers followed the mint, which travelled with the Court, and probably existed mainly for its benefit. Afterwards mints were fixed at the cities of St. Andrews, Glasgow, Dundee, &c.; and the national mint at the capital was provided with a regular staff of officers, general, master-coiner, wardens, sinker, assayer, &c., whose names appear in the quaint formula, "the generall of the cunye-hous Mr. Cunyear Wardanis sinkar syer prentaris forgearis and utheris." But the payment of these officials was regulated, at the best of times, with frugalitas plus quam Scotica. In the sixteenth century the total salaries of all put together amounted to but 861, 13s, 4d,, and it was specially provided that there be "noe clarke to the ssay-master," "noe tellers, noe under assay-master," "noe sincker of the irons, nor needes none," "noe parson or chappell, and no sexton." Every man was, however, to receive double while in actual work. This parsimony seems to have had its natural effect in producing a grasping character among the officers. Thus the assay-box with its contents properly belonged to the general; but it is recorded on one occasion,

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ay-box to the casion,

"That this box had three kyes, bot that they wer all broken, because there was ane contest for the keeping of them." It was probably a similar short-sighted policy which produced the netable fall of Scottish money compared with English. This depreciation seems to have begun in the time of Robert the Third, whose groats passed for but twopence in England, and progressed with such rapidity under the Jameses that in the time of James the Sixth an English pound was equivalent to twelve pounds Scots. On comparing, however, the history of the French and other continental coinages, it will appear that England was exceptional in so well maintaining her standard, not Scotland in depreciating

It would appear that, at all times, the Scottish coinage was largely supplemented by money from abroad, which passed at a valuation fixed by law. So miscellaneous was this foreign influx that Scotland must have been at times in the condition of Central Arabia, where, as Mr. Palgrave tells us, if a sum of meney has to be paid, all the wise men of the neighbourhood are called together to settle in discussion the value of each piece offered.

The documents collected by Mr. Cochran-

Patrick illustrate far more fully the period which intervened between the accession of James the Sixth to the English throne, and the Union under Anne, than the stormy period of Scottish independence. By far the most important years in the later period are those at the end of the seventeenth century. Up to that time, in both England and Scotland, money had been struck in primitive fashion, and the edges merely hammered. The rudeness and indeterminateness of their outlines presented an irresistible temptation to clippers, who could pare the edges without fear of detection. The result of this was a terrible deterioration of the coin. "It may well be doubted," writes Macaulay, "whether all the misery which had been inflicted on the English nation in a quarter of a century by bad kings, bad ministers, bad Parliaments, and bad judges was equal to the misery caused in a single year by bad crowns and bad shillings." In England such drastic measures had to be taken to drive the hammered coin out of use and supersede it by the new milled coin, that the commonwealth almost collapsed under the strain. The noted 4th of May was fixed as the last day on which the hammered pieces should be taken at their nominal value. In Scotland, as in the north of England, the evil does not seem to have attained the same magnitude, and less violent measures sufficed to put an end to it. As to the English clipped money, a proclamation was issued as early as May, 1695, forbidding it to be current except by weight. As to the Scottish clipped money, an Act was passed on the 28th of January, 1696, appointing the collectors for poll-money of the shires to receive it from the parochial collectors, the latter making oath that they had received it bond fide from the inhabitants. That these measures should have sufficed for restoration of the coinage proves in how far better a state this was in Scotland than in the

Mr. Cochran-Patrick concludes with sixteen most excellent autotype plates of Scottish coins, with convenient descriptions opposite them. Throughout his work the faithfulness

of his transcriptions seems, as far as we can judge, to be complete, and the number of errata is very small. The whole bears unmis-takably the stamp of care and accuracy, and the compiler can have spared neither time nor money to make the book as good as possible. The future historians of Scotland will be very fortunate if many parts of their materials are so carefully worked up for them, and set before them in so complete and taking a form.

The Poetical Works of John Keats. Chronologically Arranged and Edited, with a Memoir by Lord Houghton, D.C.L. (Bell & Sens.)

LORD HOUGHTON'S new edition of the Works of Keats has the great advantage of being complete, for it contains all the poems, even those which, up to the present time, have been but very little known. We are also glad to find that, in the new memoir which Lord Houghton has prefixed, he has modified some of the statements made in his first and second memoirs of Keats, and given a picture of the poet's life which is certainly an accurate one, even though it may lack something of the charm of the second memoir which Lord Houghton wrote. In length the new memoir resembles the second rather than the first, that is to say, it is but a short sketch.

Our approval of the edition does not extend to the text of the poems. There are passages in which the punctuation has been altered, and with the worst possible results. We have not noticed any change of words as between the new edition and that of Messrs. Moxon, although we may remark that in both, in the last line but one in the song "Hush! Hush!" Lord Houghton reads-

The stock-dove shall hatch his soft twin-eggs and coo, although Keats himself made the stock-dove feminine. In the 'Ode to a Nightingale,' Lord Houghton reads, in all of his editions,-

And with thee fade away into the forest dim. This line has two feet too many, and Keats wrote-

And with thee fade into the forest dim.

To illustrate our statement with regard to the defectiveness of the punctuation in the present edition, let us refer to the loveliest of all the sonnets-that 'To Sleep.' In this sonnet, Lord Houghton, in his new edition, omits all stop at the end of the last line but two. Now it might be explained that this was a printer's error, and, although printers' errors ought not to occur in critical complete editions of the works of great poets, still we know that no care will avoid a few. But in none of his editions has Lord Houghton followed the punctuation adopted by the poet himself in two MSS. of the poem which the writer of this present notice has seen, so that we are inclined to believe that Lord Houghton has never understood the passage.

Rambles and Studies in Greece, By J. P. Mahaffy, Author of 'Social Life in Greece,' &c. (Macmillan & Co.)

Now that the brigandage, which for a long period made the interior of Greece almost inaccessible, has ceased for a time, travellers are beginning once more to penetrate into the country; and of these travels we have a sort of first-fruits in this volume by Prof. Mahaffy.

His rambles were not very extended, reaching beyond Athens and Attica only as far as Thebes and Delphi in Northern Greece and to the Argolic peninsula in the Peloponnese. Accordingly he apologizes in his preface for "the publication of so small and insignificant a book upon so great a subject," on the ground that it is only by constant repetition that public interest in such matters can be stimulated. But, in reality, the value of a book of travels depends fully as much on the knowledge and freshness of thought which the writer brings with him as on the novelty or extended area of the country he visits; and with these qualifications Mr. Mahaffy comes excellently provided, so that he has produced a singularly instructive and agreeable volume. No one, certainly, can complain of want of variety in it, though to some it might appear rather unnecessarily discursive. In fact, the author's "studies" have partaken somewhat of the nature of his "rambles." Thus, a distant view of the Cretan mountains introduces a discussion of the historic facts embodied in the legends of Minos; and afterwards we are asked to consider the question of colour in architecture and statuary, the respective merits of large and small museums, the clumsiness of ancient fighting, the nature of the Eleusinian mysteries, the value of Plutarch's Lives, the importance of popular teaching of Greek literature, and innumerable other points more or less connected with the places visited. In a book like the present, which is professedly popular, this exuberance is, on the whole, a merit; at the same time, it has occasionally led the author to repeat himself, so that the same statement or opinion occurs more than once in different parts of the book almost in the same words. In particular, the question of the removal of the Elgin marbles, and the feelings of the Greeks with regard to it, occurs almost ad nauseam. In many other instances, however, he has succeeded in the object he proposed to himself, of bringing home to the student the ancient features of the country, and the lives of its inhabitants, by means of what he saw of modern Greece and the modern Greeks. And even where we may consider his arguments superfluous, or his remarks paradoxical, we are easily reconciled to them by the cleverness with which they are stated.

As a good instance of Mr. Mahaffy's power of giving new interest to a familiar subject, we may refer to his description of the view of Bœotia from the summit of the pass over Cithæron, on the road from Athens to Thebes. This is one of the few carriage roads in the country, and is regularly traversed by a diligence or omnibus, so that the point is among those best known to travellers in Greece; but by means of his descriptive power, which he possesses in no small measure, though he keeps it well under control, and by the associations which he calls up in connexion with the features of the scene, his account of it is singularly effective: the two great plains of Thebes and Orchomenus, of which Bœotia is composed, and by which its history is determined; the shining waters of the Copaic lake, associated with the early civilization of the Minyæ; the mountains which form the boundaries of the country—the gloomy Cithæron, famed for its Bacchanalian orgies; the pointed peaks of the gentler Helicon, the home of the

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Muses; the giant snow-clad Parnassus, rising above the other heights of Phocis,-are all called up before us. Not less brilliant, though in a very different way, is the description of the various forms of animal life, reptile and insect, on the swampy shores of the Copaic lake,-dragon-flies, cicadas, emerald - green grasshoppers, frogs, water - snakes, land-tortoises, and "their cousins of the water," all combined in a web of playful fancy. Not unfrequently, too, ideas are suggested to the author's mind by a kind of symbolism, as when his first view of the Acropolis at sunrise, with the ancient temples in sunlight, and the meaner buildings of the modern town in shadow, suggests to him the great old contrast of magnificence and meanness in Greek history, and the rapidity with which its perfect bloom which lasted but for a moment faded away. But the principle of association is never so active as when Ireland is in the background-when the Acropolis recalls the Rock of Cashel, or when the first view of Greece on a showery morning suggests the bays and rocky coasts of the west and south-

west of that country. Among the numerous subjects which occupied Prof. Mahaffy's attention in Greece, that of ancient Greek art held a prominent place. Not only are his remarks and criticisms on that subject judicious, but he has added to our knowledge by his descriptions of some archaic works of a peculiar epoch, which at present are hidden in local museums-we should rather say places of concealment—at Argos, and in the neighbourhood of Orchomenus. At the latter of these places, he seems to have missed a piece of antiquity which would have afforded him considerable interest. In the monastery of Scripou, at Orchomenus, he speaks of there being "some fragments of marble pillars and one or two inscriptions: nothing of note or importance." But, if he had examined these inscriptions more closely, he would have found several instances of the digamma, which it is not easy to find elsewhere so near their original position. In his views of the causes which have led to the present condition of the country, and his opinions on its political and social state, it is more difficult to agree with him than on matters of art. Thus, in speaking of the early commencement of the depopulation of Greece and its rapid decadence, he leaves out of sight the fiscal extortions, which contributed more than anything else to its ruin; nor does he notice the periods of intermittent prosperity, during which its condition was highly flourishing. Of Thebes in particular, which he introduces in this connexion, he might have remembered that that city was at one time the head-quarters of the silk manufacture, before the Norman princes in Sicily transferred that branch of industry to their island. Nor do we think that many persons acquainted with Greece will join with him in speaking of the "wise despotism of King Otho," or in thinking that the Greeks illustrate the principle "that most nations are by nature children, and are best and happiest when governed despotically by civilized men." Indeed, though Prof. Mahaffy comes forward in his preface as the advocate of the Greeks, especially against the South Slavonians, who are to "resume their pristine insignificance," while the Greeks should hold Constantinople, yet throughout his book there is such constant depreciation of the Greeks in all things, great and small, that we doubt whether they will like his criticism better than the sarcasms of M. About. Continental nations, on the whole, can more easily bear the sharpness of French satire than what seems to them the contemptuous tone of British candid exposure.

There are a considerable number of misspellings scattered over the volume: as "appogiatura" for appoggiatura, "Appenines" for Apennines, "Phyle" for Phyle, "Phædrides" for Phædriades—the rocks behind Delphi, "Ilisus" for Ilissus; so, too, without objecting to "Gytheion" or Gythium, "Polycleitus" or Polycletus, "Ætna" or Etna, we may fairly ask for uniformity in the same name. Slight blemishes like these would not be worth noticing were it not that we may hope to see them removed hereafter.

Basque Legends: collected chiefly in the Labourd. By the Rev. Wentworth Webster. With an Essay on the Basque Language, by M. Julien Vinson. (Griffith & Farran.) So difficult is the Basque language that tradition asserts that the Prince of Darkness himself was obliged to abandon it in despair, after having spent seven whole years in fruitlessly attempting to learn it. As a specimen of the grammatical complications in which those who study it from without are involved, may be mentioned one of the peculiarities of the conjugation of its verb; the possession, namely, on the part of that verb, of eleven moods and ninety-one tenses, variable according to the sex or rank of the person addressed. No wonder that, as M. Vinson says, in the tough but valuable essay appended to the present work, "the Basque language is one which is particularly attractive to specialists." It may be assumed, however, that the majority of the readers of Mr. Webster's pretty collection of "legends" will not be profoundly interested in that tongue, in spite of the fact

"its place in the general series of idioms has at last been well defined: it is an agglutinative and incorporating language, with some tendency to polysynthetism. It consequently finds a place in the second great morphological linguistic group, between the Finnic and the North American family of languages."

Like Etruscan, it has always possessed a fascination for the amateur, as well as the professional, philologist. And over it, as over Etruscan, the amateur has before now experienced some heavy falls. The keen, and by no means inexcusable, desire of many a diletante linguist is to grapple at once with the hardest problems which have baffled whole generations of trained scholars. And about the origin and affinities of both Basque and Etruscan such things have been said as might well make the old inhabitants of Etruria and the Pyrenees turn in their urns or their graves, or at least put on record a remonstrance through the medium of a table.

But the book now before us does not sin in this direction. M. Vinson speaks with authority, and his remarks must be listened to with respect. And so few Englishmen have taken the trouble to learn Basque, that Mr. Webster thoroughly deserves all possible encouragement to continue his labours, and to give the world more of the fruits arising from them.

But in writing about the "legends" of the

Basques, he must proceed with rather more caution than is shown in his present book. His knowledge of popular tales in general appears to be mainly drawn from Mr. Campbell's 'Tales of the West Highlands,' an admirable book, but one which throws light upon but a small portion of a very wide field. The natural consequence of this is that Mr. Webster is always laying stress upon similarities between the Basques and the Kelts. It is not clear whether he suspects that their languages are akin; but he evidently imagines that Basque popular tales are more allied with Keltic than with any other similar stories. "We have chosen the designation Keltic," he says, "because the burning question concerning the Basques at present is their relation to the Keltic race." Undoubtedly the question is a burning one, in one sense. Anybody who takes it up without very special knowledge of both Basque and Keltic is exceedingly likely to burn his fingers. He goes on to say, what is perfectly true, that the Basque stories are like the Keltic. But he adds, "whether they have a closer affinity with them than with the general run of Indo-European mythology, may be an open question." It may seem so to Mr. Webster, who does not once refer to, and therefore may be supposed to be unacquainted with, the works of Von Hahn, Bernhard Schmidt, and others, on Modern Greek folklore; or those of Gonzenbach and Pitre on Sicilian popular tales; or of Wenzig on West Slavonian; or of Schott on Wallachian; or of Vuk Karadjich and Mijatovics on Servian; not to speak of the numerous untranslated works with which a western critic cannot fairly be expected to be familiar. Of course he was by no means bound to read the whole literature of folk-tales before bringing out a collection of Basque legends. But it is dangerous for an editor who has not done so to indulge in critical observations on the origin of the stories he introduces to the public.

To the scientific comparer of stories the Basque tales will offer little that is new. But he will be glad to possess them, for they to some extent fill up a gap which has long remained open. It was supposed by some comparative mythologists that the Basque legends, as being those of a people quite distinct, at all events linguistically, from the Aryan family, would offer new features. But those which Mr. Webster has laid before us possess little novelty. As he himself remarks, some are closely allied with Keltic tales, others are evidently versions of modern French stories of the Perrault and D'Aulnoy type. The supernatural beings, however, who figure in them are interesting; the Basa Jaun and Basa Andre, or Ogre and Ogress, and the Lamiñak or fairies. The legends also about the Heren-Suge, the Basque representative of the serpent or dragon family, so notorious in popular fiction, are important if they are trustworthy. Some of the casual references in the tales to sorcery are very interesting. The Basques are great believers in magic, and witches used to flourish amongst them, in spite of Pierre de Lancre, who, "by the terrors of his hideous inquisition in 1609, produced a moral epidemic, and burnt numerous victims at St. Jean de Luz." The last person thus put to death there was a Portuguese lady, who was charged, in 1619, with secreting the Host for magic purposes. While her case was being

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investigated in the church, a number of fishermen about to start for Newfoundland, who "dared not set sail while such a crime was unpunished," seized upon her and burnt her. Facts of this kind are always worth recording. If Mr. Webster will give us a book about the Basques made up of such facts, or of popular fictions carefully sifted, and printed without other comment than may be demanded by difficulties arising from Basque words or customs and the like—that is to say, without theories, hypotheses, or mythological comparisons or explanations—then he will be conferring a real benefit on the small number of readers who know a little about the Basques; and the great number to whom the language and literature of those "aborigines" are entirely unknown.

The Historical Collections of a Citizen of London in the Fifteenth Century, containing:

I. John Page's Poem on the Siege of Rouen.

II. Lydgate's Verses on the Kings of England. III. William Gregory's Chronicle of London. Edited by James Gairdner.

(Printed for the Camden Society.)

THE history of England in the fifteenth century gradually gets the light so much needed. The Rolls Series has given several volumes of valuable illustration; the Camden Society has already done much for it, and promises more. Mr. Gairdner now lays before us a poem and a chronicle which could not have been entrusted to better hands; his recent edition of the Paston letters showing how well acquainted he is with fifteenth-century history.

The poem is that remarkable one on the siege of Rouen in 1418, of which more than two-thirds was printed in 'Archæologia,' vol. xxi., and the remainder, from other manuscripts, in 'Archæologia,' vol. xxii.

According to the Egerton MS., from which the present edition is printed (and which alone gives the name), the name of the author was John Page, who was present at the siege. He says, "For at that sege with the Kyng I lay." He describes the fortifications of the city, the approaches made by the English, and some of the assaults and sallies; he gives the names of many of the commanders of the English host; he describes the miseries of the besieged, who (as at the siege of Calais) turned out of the city the old and useless hands; and tells how the English kindly gave them food, although they would not allow the poor creatures to pass through the English lines; and how, at Christmas, our king also sent them a supply of food. The distress of the besieged at last got to such a height that some of the citizens went out and obtained an interview with our king, whose demeanour on this occasion is admirably described :-

"Alle stylle he stode that whyle,
Noyther dyd he laughe nor smyle,
But with a countenaunsce full clere,
And with a fulle lordely chere,
Nor to mylde nor to stronge,
But in a mene withowtyn change.
Hys countenans dyd he not a bate,
But stylle he stode and in astate."

Hall's account of the interview, and of the speeches there, is so similar that it is likely he saw this poem. The interview was soon followed (after some stiff debates about the terms) by the surrender of the city, and the poem closes with the entry of our king. The author adds these lines:—

"With owtyn fabylle or fage,
Thys processe made John Page
Alle in raffe and not in ryme,
By cause of space he hadde no tyme;
But whenne thys werre ys at a nende,
And he have lyffe and space, he wylle hit amende."

But if the author appended these lines, what did he mean by saying that the "procesce" was not in rhyme? The language and cadence of the poem are good, but it does not chronicle the siege fully. The situation and towers of the town, the names and encampments of the English and French commanders, the miseries of the besieged, and the conferences, are the staple; and there is not much, besides the king's stratagem (which failed), which may not be found in Hall's 'Chronicle' and Goodwin's 'Life of Henry the Fifth.' A chronicle, as yet unprinted, tells how the king, shortly after taking possession of the city, discovered a plot to assassinate him as he was going to offer a taper at the Monastery of Notre Dame there; and how he sent fifty of the conspirators to England, and imprisoned them in divers places, and for thirty-six weeks made them pay twenty shillings a day before being allowed food. Mr. Gairdner considers that his text is a copy of the first draft of the poem, and probably he is right; for the author in this text details the noble qualities of our king in words that refer to a person then living, whereas in the copy printed in the 'Archæologia' the same passage is so worded as to refer to the king lately deceased. The poem possibly underwent several revisions, perhaps by other hands than the author's. In the 'Archæologia' copy, we read (line 15):-

"A more worthyer sege was never none sette Sythe that Troy and Jerusalem was fyrste ygette, Nother so myche pepyll was never ere sene, Nother syche another sege sette, as I wene."

The fourth of these lines is redundant; so the writer of the Egerton MS. (or the writer of his exemplar) substitutes—

"One kynge with soo many undyr hevyne."

If the Egerton text is the earlier, the writer of the other must have interpolated words to a great extent; for very many of his lines are made longer by a syllable or two.

The Chronicle, written by William Gregory (Mayor of London in 1450), is a work of a different order, and makes valuable contributions to history. It is, in its frame, like the 'Chronicle of London,' edited by the late Sir Harris Nicolas, and it extends from 1189 to 1469. The early part is rather barren; but, as the first one hundred and twenty years occupy only nine leaves, the editor has done wisely in giving the Chronicle entire. Gregory's own composition seems to begin in the nineteenth, and end in the thirtieth, year of Henry the Sixth. In the Preface, the editor notes some of the new information given. In the account of Jack Cade's rebellion, the author states that the first captain of the rioters was killed, and that another person afterwards put himself forward as being the first; and the editor puts the very pertinent question, whether the name of Mortimer, assumed by Cade, was not really the name of the first leader. There is also a curious account of Margaret of Anjou's adventures in Wales, after the battle of Northampton, and how she managed to raise 15,000 men before her adversaries knew it; but at length the news reached London, and the Duke of York

set out against her, only to be defeated at Wakefield. Singular warlike engines are mentioned as having been prepared by the Yorkists before the second battle of St. Alban's. One of them was a gun which was to discharge at once a pellet of lead, a long iron-headed arrow, and wild fire; but the guns of this kind were found useless in action. The author speaks very disparagingly of spearmen, saying they were only fit to ride before the footmen and eat their victuals. After the battle, the king knighted Sir Andrew Trollope; and well he deserved the honour, for one of his feet had been wounded by a calthrop, and he could not move; but, on the spot where his wound pinned him, he slew fifteen adversaries. With grim humour, he said to the king (after apologizing for the small number of his victims), "I stode stylle in oo place and they come unto me, but they bode stylle with me."

Among the "lords" that were on the king's side at the battle of Towton, on Palm Sunday, 1461, the chronicler names "Lord Foschewe," undoubtedly, as the editor remarks, the celebrated Sir John Fortescue. Now, Sir John was not a baron; but the title of "Lord" here given may, perhaps, give countenance to the argument advanced by Lord Clermont (in his 'Life of Sir John Fortescue') that Sir John was made Chancellor by Henry the Sixth before he actually lost the throne.

A Papal Bull and a statute in 1468, against shoes with peaks longer than two inches, and its effects, are smartly related. The statute, 4 Edward IV., cap. 7, does not allude to the Bull, and Harpsfeld, in his 'Ecclesiastical History of England,' only speaks of the statute forbidding sale of shoes on Sundays and feast-days. But the Cordwainers of London, who defied the bull, would naturally look at Papal interference with their trade with other eyes than would the ecclesiastics.

There is a full narrative of a judicial duel (trial by battle) in 1456, at Winchester, which ended, fortunately, by the defeat of a rascal. The dress and weapons used by the combatants are described. The staves were not tipped with horn, but with sharp iron in the shape of a ram's horn.

In the preface, the editor gives a succinct account of the oppression (slightly alluded to in the text, 8 Edward the Fourth) exercised on Sir Thomas Coke, an Alderman of London, who was imprisoned on a charge of misprision of treason. Sir Thomas paid 8,000l. to the king, in order to obtain release from prison; and then a demand was made, "by virtue of an old abuse, called aurum regime," that for every 1,000%. he had paid the king he should give the queen 1,000 marks besides." Fabyan, who tells the story under 7 Edward the Fourth, says that the claim on behalf of the queen was 100 (not 1,000) marks; this was also a mistake which Prynne, at p. 101 of his treatise ('Aurum Reginæ,' &c. 4to. Lond., 1668), corrects, saying "it should be pounds." Prynne would, doubtless, have protested against this duty being called "an old abuse," after his labour in collecting and printing hundreds of instances of it, from the reign of King John to the reign of Henry the Eighth, besides giving the passage in the 'Dialogue of the Exchequer,' temp. Henry the Second, which treats it as a then established duty. For every ten marks of certain payments made to the king, the queen was entitled to an additional tenth.—In 1465 there is a capital account of a pulpit-war on the subject of "benefysd men that had grete beneficys, and prestys that had temporal lyffelod."

We have commented on a few only of the novelties of this interesting Chronicle. An account of a famous siege, by an eye-witness, and contemporary accounts by Londoners of some events in what Hall calls the troublous season of Henry the Sixth, well deserved publication. Foot-notes identify persons named by the poet and the chroniclers. The Appendix contains a correct list of the mayors and sheriffs of London during the time covered by the Chronicle; and a full index closes the volume.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

The Maid of Florence. (Sampson Low & Co.)

Elma; or, Fiction and Fact. By Corney
Welper. 2 vols. (Tinsley Brothers.)

She Reigns Alone. By Beatrice Yorke. 3 vols.

(Samuel Tinsley.)

Storm-Driven. By Mary Healy. 3 vols. (Sampson Low & Co.)

What She Came Through. By Sarah Tytler. 3 vols. (Daldy, Isbister & Co.)

THE author of 'The Maid of Florence' calls it "a legend of the olden time." She cannot be congratulated upon the time and place that she has selected for her "legend," for it would be difficult to find any spot less adapted to be the scene of a legend than Florence at the end of the thirteenth century. We seem to know all about everybody and everything whom and which the city then contained, as well as, or even better than, we know its inhabitants, customs, and outward appearance at the present day. We know, for instance, that up to 1290 the podestà was chosen for a year, after that for six months; and we know, probably, the name of every man who ever held the post. We do not know, neither does Villari, that any Colonna was podestà at all, much less so appointed for a term of three years, as the authoress is pleased to make her hero. Really people ought not, even in legends of the olden time, to take such liberties with history. It is as if a novelist were to make one of her characters, say, Lord Mayor of London for three years between 1860 and 1870. Nor is there reason to suppose that the conversational style of the Florentines of that period is adequately represented by English blank verse, in which the characters of 'The Maid of Florence,' almost without exception, talk. The author, before writing any more legends, should make herself acquainted with the local circumstances of the place she chooses for

Mr. Corney Welper indicates in his novel considerable knowledge of "life," as that word is understood in bar-rooms, music-halls, and the billiard-rooms of third-rate public-touses. His wicked Jem Tagler and his irtuous William Anthill are both representative men of the so-called "sporting" democracy, and the language of the order is faithfully reproduced. For the rest, the author deserves the credit of confining himself to what he understands. His heroine is held up to admiration principally for her phy-

sical perfections. The enchanting figure she displays in a tight-fitting blue serge dress, going through the evolutions of the trapeze, is likely to dwell longer in the reader's memory than any of her moral characteristics. These, however, are not despicable, and as she turns out to be a lady of fortune, the hero is socially excused for his fidelity to the vow he makes to her in the first ardour of affection.

We are informed in the Preface, that Miss Yorke's novel was originally to be introduced to the public under the title of 'Hearts are Trumps.' It was unfortunate that so appropriate a name should not have been adhered to, as 'She Reigns Alone' is clearly a misnomer. Miss Nora Powys is indeed facile princeps, but she reigns with a lustre enhanced by comparison with seven other charming ladies, all of whom, if we mistake not, are more or less engaged before the close of the first volume. As Nora is the leading lady, so Gerard is the most desirable young gentleman, though his dependence on his perverse and disobliging uncle or guardian is almost contemptibly abject. He is, in fact, a mere butt, bullied in England and shot at in Egypt, but like the dog, walnut-tree, &c., of the proverb, seems to thrive upon the discipline. If the author will crowd her canvas a little less on her next essay, it may be more possible for a bewildered reviewer to determine the exact amount of merit in her story.

'Storm-Driven' recounts the history of an American family, which having had nothing but wealth to consolidate it, collapses when that wealth is gone. One of the sufferers from the wreck is "Lil" Temple, the heroine, who goes to Europe as companion to a countrywoman of fashion, and has to endure the most unwomanly harshness at her hands. "Lil" is finally deserted in Paris, where she is rescued at the last pitch of destitution by an honest and successful admirer, who, we are led to infer, dissuades her from her avowed intention of entering a convent. As a picture of American life the book is not pleasing, though there are some substantive characters described, notably Issy Richards, a young woman of much shrewdness, and also of unrequited appreciation of manly excellence. England is represented by a stage dandy in the diplomatic

service, but the part is subordinate. 'What She Came Through' is a pleasant book. Fleasant in style, which neither aims at flippant brilliancy nor descends to impotent declamation or gush, but is that of a cultivated lady who is satisfied with being natural; and pleasant in the persons and places with which the story deals, as well as in the happy end to which it is brought. At the same time other characters besides the heroine have to come through their share of troubles-enough to make the story resemble real life; and while the happy conclusion is sufficiently probable, it is also sufficiently unexpected for fiction, and gives the reader genuine satisfaction. The heroine is a girl of gentle birth on her father's side, at whose death she and her sister re left almost without money and with only two relations. One of these will offer nothing but advice, and so perforce the children are sent to their mother's sister, a sort of superior farm servant in an eastern county. After her sister's death, the heroine resolves to become a countrywoman, and give up all pretensions to being a lady, and the main interest of the story begins when a certain day-labourer comes upon the scene. Fortunately, the reader is allowed to guess that the labourer is not what he would appear. The story of the peasant courting the young woman who turns out to be a princess in disguise, and then marrying her, is rather wearisome to modern taste, fascinating as it must have been formerly; and Miss Tytler is right in avoiding this offence, by making hero and heroine of the same class, while she ingeniously keeps up the interest of the story, and gives opportunities for develop-ing pleasant traits of character, by making each suppose the other to belong to a lower social grade. The book is not one to be read fast, pages being skipped here and there, because a considerable part of it is occupied with details of country life, all of which seems to us excellent, both as description and as analysis of character not easily got at. This must be the result of close observation, but the labour spent upon it has not been thrown away. It is not, however, only in country scenes that Miss Tytler succeeds. The talk of Rica Wyndham, a rather flippant young woman of the world, is very lively, and shows a versatile power which a casual reader would hardly have expected.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MR. SHAW'S Inns of Court Calendar is handsomely printed and nicely arranged. When, however, the compiler says that he has appended the
"Academical Degrees" of the Barristers in his
lists, the statement needs qualification. In a large
number of instances the degree is not given, and
this is usually the case when the degree has been
a high one. Had Mr. Shaw consulted the Oxford
and Cambridge Calendars rather more frequently,
he might have supplied a good many gaps. If it
be worth while to insert degrees at all, they should
be inserted systematically. An index, too, is
needed. Messrs. Butterworths are the publishers.

Mr. Boyle has collected some capital sketches and stories in *The Savage Life* (Chapman & Hall). The book is eminently readable, and it would be difficult for any one wishing to while away one of the rainy days that are the rule just now to find a more entertaining companion than Mr. Boyle.

The best of the late Lord Stanhope's Historical Essays, is that on the Statue of Memnon, an agreeable article which contains information new to most people. When Lord Stanhope attempted a larger theme, like 'The French Retreat from Moscow,' he was by no means so successful. Mr. Murray is the publisher.

M. Lenormant has just published at Paris Étude sur quelques Parties des Syllabaires Cunéiformes, in which he proposes to give an introductory sketch of the large work on which he has been for some time employed and which will take several years to complete,—the minute examination of all the "Accadian" inscriptions at present discovered, with their bearing on similar inscriptions in the Assyrian language and character. In the course of his introduction, he states that this work is a practical reply to the censures and criticisms of M. Halévy and others, who have accused "Accadists" of claiming as a language what is no language at all, and of amusing themselves and the public with "gratuitous hypotheses." He maintains that, with scarcely any exception, all Assyriologists admit that "Accadian" is a real and distinct language; that they who used it were the inventors of the Cuneiform writing; that it was spoken by a population who dwelt near the mouths of the Euphrates and Tigris before the advent of the people whose tongue was Semitic; that, as a language, it belongs

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to those called by philologists Agglutinative, with roots perfectly diverse from those of the Semitic dialects; and, lastly, that it shows a close relationdialects; and, lastly, that it snows a close relation-ship with the non-Aryan and Agglutinative lan-guages of Media and Susiana, of each of which countries we have "Accadian" inscriptions. M. Lenormant adds that it is not yet quite clear in what way "Accadian" is related to the Turanian or Altaic idioms, and that different scholars of or Altaic idioms, and that different scholars of eminence are at present at issue,—at least, undecided,—on this point. At the same time, he holds that "Accadian" grammar may be fairly considered as established in all essential points, and that its affinity with the Ugro-Finnic dialects of the North is unquestionably far greater than its difference from them. In carrying out his views, M. Lenormant places before his readers a minute examination of sixteen Cuneiform syllabaries, with a study of the corresponding (or probably corresponding) words to be found in them in "Accadian" and Assyrian, adding, at the close of his inquiry, two glossaries of these two languages, which will be of the utmost value to future scholars, whether or not all that he has urged in favour of his views may ultimately stand the test of future investigations. We have made some remarks on this subject in another column.

THE Revue Historique has abandoned the quar-THE Revue Historique has abandoned the quar-terly form of issue, and is to appear every two months. There will be three volumes a year instead of two. The present number contains an instalment of Sismondi's letters from Paris in 1815, about which there has been so much talk, and many capital articles. We are glad to find that this excellent periodical is prospering.

that this excellent periodical is prospering.

We have on our table Memorials of the Earl Stirling, by Rev. C. Rogers, LLD. (Edinburgh, Paterson),—The Life of a Scottish Probationer, by J. Brown (Macmillan),—Mildred's Mistake, by F. Levien (Marcus Ward & Co.),—Kaspar and the Seven Wonderful Pigeons of Würzburg, by J. Goddard (Marcus Ward & Co.),—Dobbie and Dobbie's Master, by N. D'Anvers (Marcus Ward & Co.),—Tom Thumb's Picture Book (Routledge),—Sugar and Spice, by J. Johnson (Dean),—Nuts to Crack, by J. Johnson (Dean),—Memoirs of a Poodle, translated by Mrs. Sale Barker (Routledge),—Gleams through the Mists, by C. B. Wheeler Poolite, translated by Mrs. Sale Barker (Routledge),
—Gleams through the Mists, by C. B. Wheeler
(Low),—A Thousand and One Gems of English
Poetry, Selected and Arranged by C. Mackay,
LLD. (Routledge),—The Sculptor, and other
Poems, by G. Hunt Jackson (Hodder & Stoughton), Poems, by G. Hunt Jackson (Hodder & Stoughton),

—Rhymes and Chimes, by F. S. Colquhoun (Macmillan),—Many Moods in Many Measures, by J.

K. Christie (Glasgow, Lochead Brothers),—The
Battle of the Standard, by W. A. Gibbs (Provost),

—Heart to Heart, by the Author of 'The Old,
Old Story' (Wells Gardner),—Esther, by A. V.
Grahame (Nisbet),—Idylls of the Rink, by G.
Bowers and others (Hardwicke & Bogue),—The
Child Jesus, by G. S. Rowe, M. G. Pearse, S. J. P.
Dunman, and H. J. Foster (Wesleyan Methodist
Sunday School Union).—Caina, and Other Poems. Dunman, and H. J. Foster (Wesleyan Methodist Sunday School Union),—Caina, and Other Poems, by the Author of 'The King's Sacrifice' (Smith, Elder & Co.),—The Old, Old Story, by H. S. A. Miles (Wells Gardner),—Bible Stories, in Verse (Stock),—The Bible for Young People, Vol. V., by Dr. H. Oort and Dr. I. Hooykaas, assisted by Dr. A. Kuenen (Williams & Norgate),—Lessons on Old Testament History, Vol. II., by Rev. J. Watson, M.A. (Church of England Sunday School Institute),—Lessons on the Prayer Book, by Rev. A. C. Macpherson, M.A. (Church of England Sunday School Institute),—The St. James's Lectures (Murray),—The Servant of Jehovah, by W. Urwick, M.A. (Hamilton, Adams & Co.),—Heroes of Faith, by C. J. Vaughan, D.D. (Macmillan),—Sermons on the Church's Seasons, by J. W. Parker, M.A. (Rivingtons),—Footsteps of the Master, by H. B. Stowe (Low),—Sermons for the Christian Year, Translated from the German of the late Year, Translated from the German of the late R. Rothe, D.D. (Hamilton, Adams & Co.),—The Story of Christianity, by Rev. A. Reed, B.A. (Hamilton, Adams & Co.),—and The Expositor, edited by Rev. S. Cox (Hodder & Stoughton.)

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Theology.

Davidson's (S.) Canon of the Bible, 12mo. 5/cl.

Hero (A) in the Battle of Life, by Author of 'Memoirs of Capt. Hedley Vicars, 'cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl

Howson's (Rev. J. S.) Position of the Priests during Consecration in the English Communion Service, 8vo. 2/6 swd.

Martin's (Rev. B.) Messiah's Kingdom, cr. 8vo. 5/cl.

Metropolitan Taburnacle Pulpit, Vol. 1876, 8vo. 7/cl.

Parker's (J.) Ark of God, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.

Sermons at the Reopening of Durham Cathedral, edited by Dean of Durham, cr. 8vo. 4/cl.

Through Darkness unto Perfect Day, by Author of 'Waiting,' 16mo. 2/6 cl.

16mo. 2/6 cl. Whately's (E. J.) The Gospel in Bohemia, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl. Fine Art and Archaeology.

Parker's (J. H.) Archeology of Rome, Part 11, Svo. 10/6 cl. Phillip's (John) Pictures, with Description, &c., by J. Dafforne, folio, 21/cl. Sunday Pictures for the Little Ones, 16mo. 2/cl.

Borromeo (S. Charles), Life and Times of, by C. A. Jones, 3,6 Bruce's (Rob.) Life of L. G. M. G., cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl. Mahan's (A.). Crisical History of the lake American War, 15/ Marshall's (Mrs.) History of France, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl. Nichol's (J. Tables of Ancient Literature and History, 4/6 cl. Prescoti's (W. H.) Works, edited by J. Foster Kirk, new edit. 15 vols. 12mo. 90/ cl.

Geography.

Drew's (F.) Northern Barrier of India, cr. 8vo. 12/ cl.

Cotton's (General Sir A.) Arabic Primer, cr. 8vo. 12/ cl.

Philology.

Cotton's (General Sir A.) Arabic Primer, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.

Dasent's (Rev. C. U.) Grammar of the English Language, 2/6

Latin Without Team, by Author of Feop of Day, 3/6 cl.

Syker's (G. F. A.) Grammatical Exercises in Latin Prose Composition, 12mo. 2/6 cl.

Symons's (G. J.) Pocket Altitude Tables, 32mo. 2/6 cl. swd.

Symons's (G. J.) Pocket Altitude Tables, 32mo. 2/6 cl. swd.

General Literature.

Brett's (H.) Laurie, or Willow Banks, 12mo. 5/6 cl.
Christian Year Birthday Gift-Book, 32mo. 1/6 cl.
Crockford's Clerical Directory, 1877, roy. 8vo. 15/
Dublin University Calendar, 2 vols 12mo. 6/6 cl.
Dublin University Examination Papers, 1877, 12mo. 4/ cl.
Gee's (G. E.) The Practical Gold Worker, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Hart's Annual Army List, 1877, 8vo. 21/ cl.
Kavanagh's (J.) Two Lilies, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 ci.
Kavanagh's (J.) Two Lilies, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 ci.
Kavanagh's (J.) Decasional Papers and Reviews, 8vo. 12/ cl.
Month (The), Vol. 9, 8vo. 9/6 cl.
Mosley's (J. B.) Ruling Ideas in Early Agos, 8vo. 10/6
Macliwath's (G.) Vivisection, 8vo. 3/6 cl. 19.
Punch, Vol. 71, July to December, 1876, 4to. 8/6 cl.
St. Clair and Brophy's Twelve Years' Study of the Eastern
Question in Bulgaria, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
Webster's (Rev. W.) Basque Legends, 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Webster's (Rev. W.) Basque Legends, 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Webster's (J. S.) Stories of Lancashire Life, cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.

MR. RASSAM'S EXPEDITION.

Constantinople, Dec. 29. THOSE who take interest in the mission which Mr. Rassam has undertaken on behalf of the British Museum will hear with regret that he has come to a dead lock at the first stage of his journey, and that under circumstances that are hardly to be accounted for. As you know, Mr. Rassam has come here, on his way to Assyria and Mesopotamia, to obtain a proper authorization from the Sublime Porte to continue the explorations commenced by Mr. George Smith, and so unhappily interby Mr. George Smith, and so unnapply inter-rupted by his premature death. George Smith complained of being constantly hindered and vexed by the local authorities; no wonder, indeed, for the document by which he was authorized to commence his mission was wholly ridiculous, couched as it was in terms which entirely deprived him of his liberty of action and judgment. It need hardly be said that for the terms of this authorization he was in no way responsible. To continue this mission upon the same terms would have been reckless, and Mr. Rassam's first endeavour was, of course, to obtain, through the medium of the British Embassy, a proper firman from the Porte. Now Mr. Rassam has been nearly a month in Constantinople, and, from want of good will and energy in the proper quarter, he is no more advanced to-day than he was at the first hour of his arrival. He in vain sought to see Sir Henry Elliot; he found it even difficult to obtain the attention of the minor officials of the Embassy. It was only within the last few days, after two letters that remained unacknowledged, that he received an intimation, written on a card, from Mr. Sandison, the first Drogman of the Embassy, that "nothing could be done until the feast-days of Bairam were over." But Bairam only began on Sunday last, and the Embassy for three weeks saw fit to take no action whatever in a matter which it might easily have settled with the Porte

in a few days. The Conference is, doubtless, an all-absorbing topic; but not so much so as to pre-vent one of the numerous officials of the Embassy vent one of the numerous officials of the Embassy from taking the necessary steps in a matter which vastly interests a considerable section of the Eng-lish public.

C. B.

CHRISTIAN WINTHER.

CHRISTIAN WINTHER was born at Fensmark, in Zealand, on the 29th of July, 1796. After his father's death, his mother removed to Nykjöbing, in Falster, and there made the acquaintance of Rasmus Möller, whom she married in 1812. The latter's son by an earlier marriage, P. M. Möller, was thus brought up as young Winther's brother, and he also became a poet of some distinction. In 1815 Christian Winther was sent to the University of Copenhagen, but did not appear as a poet till 1819, when his first verses began to be printed in the newspapers. These were so popular that when he published his earliest collection of poems, 'Digte,' in 1828, he had already a name in literature. This volume had an enormous success, and certain sections of it, especially that entitled "Træsnit" ("Woodcuts"), took a place at once among the most popular poetry in the language. In 1830 Winther spent a year in Italy. After his return, he published, in 1835, 'Nogle Digte' ('Some Poems'), which included the exquisite cycle called "Annette." In 1838 appeared a third collection, 'Sang og Sagn' ('Songs and Legends'), small in extent, but comprised of veritable jewels. In 1841, on the occasion of the betrothal of the then Crown Prince, afterwards King Frederick the Seventh, Winther was made titular Professor, and sent to Neu-Strelitz to instruct the Mecklenburg princess in the Danish language. In 1842 he pubin 1828, he had already a name in literature. This sent to Neu-Strelitz to instruct the Mecklenburg princess in the Danish language. In 1842 he published a fourth collection of lyrics, containing a cycle of passionate love-pieces "To One," addressed to the lady whom he eventually married when past his fiftieth year. He continued to publish poems and novels, of all which the epical romance of 'Hjortens Flugt' ('The Stag's Flight'), published in 1855, is the most important. He travelled much in his later years, and has resided latterly in Paris, where he died on the 30th of December, 1876.

Winther stands unapproached in Danish literature as a purely lyrical poet. In the delicacy of his sentiment, the realism of his mature studies, and the melody of his unaffected measures, he stands beside Wordsworth and Sully Prudhomme; but he is more uniform and less mystic than the

stands beside Wordsworth and Sully Frudhomme; but he is more uniform and less mystic than the one, more artless and homely than the other. No Danish poet has ever enjoyed so universal a popularity, unabated through so long a life, and, far from being on the decline, this homage seems to increase every year on the lips of student and peasant. With Christian Winther the last of the great Danish poets of the beginning of the century has passed away. E. W. Gosse. has passed away.

SEMITIC LITERATURE IN 1876.

SEMITIC literature has lately been deprived of some of its most distinguished veterans,—Geiger, Ewald, Petermann, and Lane. We have also lost the Assyrian scholar, George Smith. Activity in research and publication has not, however, slackened; for, as M. Renan says in his excellent Report to the Société Asiatique (in reference to the death of its President, Jules Mohl), "Quand les aînés s'en vont d'autres entrent dans la carrière." If we have little to mention in one department of Semitic literature, we shall find enough to counter-balance it in another branch. The fertility of the literature of belles lettres is not to be expected here, for important publications can be issued only when interesting material has been discovered to call them forth. It would be difficult to arrange the books which come under the present notice according to subjects, and we shall, accordingly, divide them according to languages. Let us state that we have excluded modern commentaries on the Bible, which fall more naturally under the head Theology.

Hebrew. The first part of the Catalogue of

the MSS, in the Cambridge University Library has been published by Dr. Schiller-Szinessy. brief account of the most important Hebrew-Arabic MSS. lately acquired by the Russian Government has been given in a Report to the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford. We have not much to notice as regards the publication of Hebrew texts, unless we mention reprints of Cabalistical books and casuistic and biblical commentaries made in the East and Poland. Still we may expect immediately, 1, a critical text of the famous Abraham ibn Ezra's Commentary on Isaiah, by Dr. M. Friedländer, and his inedited short Commentary on Daniel by Mr. H. J. Mathews, both published by the Society for Hebrew Literature in London; 2. A catena of Jewish interpreters on the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah (text and translation), with an elaborate introduction from the pen of Dr. Pusey. Prof. Graetz has now completed, with his second volume, his history of the Jews up to 1848. Rabbi Weiss has brought out (in Hebrew) his second volume of the history of Rabbinical literature, comprising the period from the destruction of the second Temple to the close of the Mishna (180 A.D.). We are afraid that he has been too much inclined to follow Graetz and Jost, and this volume is less original than his former one. The publication of a collection of the late Dr. Geiger's minor articles, as well as that of Dr. Zunz's scattered articles, is progressing. Dr. Güdemann has contributed from Talmudical sources an essay on St. Matthew's Logia. An important book on Hebrew mythology has appeared from Dr. Goldziher, a young professor at Buda-Pesth. The English translation of it being shortly expected we will not anticipate the reviewers. Dr. Levy's Talmudical Lexicon has reached the letter *Heth*. Land's Hebrew Grammar, of which an English translation was made by Mr. R. Lane Poole, is valuable for comparative matter. Not a little has been done in palæography. M. Renan has published in the Journal Asiatique (August-September) an inscription found by M. Guérin at Alma (Upper Galilea). It is similar to that discovered at the synagogue of Kefr Bereim, and published by him in 1864. If we agree with his decipherment, we only do so in supposing a later date, as it is certainly much later than the fourth century. But the greatest contribution of the year under this head is, without doubt, Dr. Harkavy's elaborate essay (in the Mémoires of the Academy of St. Petersburg) on the colophons of the Pentateuch rolls in the Library of St. Petersburg, and the tomb-inscriptions found in the Crimea. That the former are not genuine cannot be doubted; in fact, there is no Semitic scholar who is of another opinion except Prof. Chwolson, who is rather too eager to assign an early date to comparatively recent documents. It required more labour and acumen to prove that Firkovitz (the collector of those documents) could be the Karaitic Simonides in falsifying epitaphs. However, Dr. Harkavy has, in our opinion, succeeded with documents in hand in detecting step by step the additions and corrections made in those inscriptions. Thus the early inscription of six B.C. is now brought down to the eleventh or twelfth century; and the history of an early Jewish (or rather Karaitic, as Firkovitz wanted to make believe) settlement in the Crimea is now demolished, unless Prof. Chwolson reconstructs it as skilfully as from time to time he promises to do. We shall see. A small pamphlet ('A. Firkovitsch und seine Entdeckungen') on these epitaphs has been lately published by Dr. Strack, which was evidently intended to anticipate Dr. Harkavy's laborious essay. From earlier communications of this up-start Hebraist to German theological quarterlies we are entitled to conclude that his documents are not prima manu.

Arabic.-If France has contributed little to the Hebrew department (we shall see, however, in course of next year two important publications from that country), it claims the greatest share of the most important Arabic publications of the past year. M. Leclerc has supplied a great gap by his history of medicine amongst the Arabs. The translation by M. Sauvaire of the fragments of 'Mujir-Eddin' relating to the history of Jerusalem and Hebron is an important contribution to the geography of Palestine. The pamphlet of M. Lavoix, 'Les Peintres Arabes,' tries to rectify the too pronounced idea of the Mussulman having an aversion to painting. The ethical and devo-tional treatises of Zamakshari have been published, text and translation, by M. Barbier de Meynard, under the titles of 'Les Colliers d'Or' and 'Les Pensées de Zamakhschari.' From these two books some Islamophobes may, perhaps, acquire a little idea of the moral sense of the professors of this religion. M. Boucher is fast advancing with his publication of Ferazdak, one of the oldest Arabic poets. The Arabic metrical system has been handled in a thorough manner by M. Guyard (Journal Asiatique), a dry subject indeed, and the author deserves praise for his minute labour. Finally, two distinct works have appeared on the historical relations of the Arabs to the Berbers in the Magreb (Algiers, Tunis, and Morocco), one by M. Mercier, with the title, 'Histoire de l'Etab-lissement des Arabes dans l'Afrique Septentrionale,' and the other by M. Fournel, with the title 'Les Berbers: Étude sur la Conquête de l'Afrique par les Arabes, d'après les Textes Arabes imprimés, In epigraphy we have to mention M. Brosselard's essay (Journal Asiatique) on the tombs of the Emirs of Ben Zeiyan at Tlemsen. In Germany this literature has not been much enriched during the past year. Still there is not a complete blank. Prof. Dieterici continues his philosophy of the Arabs. Three parts of El-Bekri's Geography have been brought out by Dr. Wüsten-We have also grammatical notes by Prof. Fleischer, and Ibn Yaish's commentary on the Mufassel (by Dr. Jahn), and Prof. Trumpp's intro-duction to the study of the Arabic Grammar are of importance. Prof. Sachau has just published the first part of Albirûni's treatise on the chronology of Oriental nations. The publication of the text of Tabari's historical works, undertaken by German and Dutch professors from manuscripts scattered throughout various libraries, is a great enterprise. We hope the learned public will materially contribute to its success. conclude with Mr. Rodwell's second edition of his accurate translation of the Koran.

Syriac.-Here we have to record the publication of the most important work for the history of apologue, the Syriac Pantshalantra, or 'Kalilag ve Dimnag,' translated from the Pehlvi. The history of the singular discovery of this text has been made known in these columns. We have only to state that it contains, as Prof. Benfey says, in the Pre-We have only to state face, an almost literal translation from the Pehlvi, which was itself translated from the Sanskrit, and both are for ever lost. The Arabic translation of this work, similarly made on the Pehlvi, has already many additions and transpositions, and is therefore of much less value for the early history of this book, which has been translated into every civilized language. The text, as well as the German translation, is by Prof. Bickel, to which Prof. Benfey has proposed a most elaborate preface. Prof. Bickel has also issued the second volume of the works of Isaac of Antiochia. The Abbé P. Martin makes very important contributions to Syriac literature, as well as to ecclesiastical history, by his editions and French translations of the Chronicle of Joshua the Stylite, and the letters of Jacob of Sarug to the monks of the convent at Mar Bassus and to Paul of Edessa (published by the German Oriental Society). Of no less importance for ecclesiastical history is Dr. G. Phillips's edition and English translation of the doctrine of Addai the Apostle.

Æthiopic. — Dr. Cornill has published the Æthiopic translation from the Arabic of the 'Profession of Faith,' by Jacob Baradæus, the father of the Monophysite Church in the East. The Æthiopic version of the Pastor of Hermas has been examined by Dr. Schodde. The catalogues of the Æthiopic MSS. in the British Museum and the Paris Library are ready for publication.

Inscription.—The Moabite inscriptions on the

Berlin potteries have been treated exhaustively by Profs. Kautzsch and Socin, and declared forgeries. The clearest proofs do not, however, convince every one, for Prof. Koch tries to believe in their genuineness. Mr. Sharpe's attempt to decipher the Sinaitic inscriptions has been already criticized in these columns. Dr. Euting has published in the Morgenländische Zeitschrift several articles on some Phænician inscriptions. Many Punic in-scriptions have reached Paris, which will be shortly incorporated in the 'Corpus Inscriptionum Semi-ticarum.' Drs. Mordtmann and D. H. Müller have contributed to Himyaritic epigraphy. The latter has made an attempt to fix the alphabet of the Harra (a part of the Hauran) inscription found by Dr. Wetzstein. Dr. Müller is certainly on the right track, but his decipherment is premature. We shall pass over without remark Mr. Heath's attempt on the Hamath inscriptions. Let us add series by the London Palseographical Society, under the direction of Prof. W. Wright.

Assyrian.-We have to thank the Trustees of the British Museum for a fifth part of Assyrian inscriptions, which will be soon out. Indeed, nothing is so important in this particular branch as to have as many texts as possible published. By this means the Assyriologists will be enabled to verify and rectify many of their readings. How necessary this is can be seen from two important One of those is Prof. A. von Gutschmid's 'Die Assyriologie in Deutschland,' which will, no doubt, strongly shake the belief in the present translations of Assyrian documents. The author is an historian and first-rate critic, and, from his standing-point, endeavours to prove that many Assyrian data, as at present translated, are directly contradicted by history. Is it not, indeed, astonishing that, whereas in other Semitic inscriptions, where the alphabet is fixed, so many passages occur con-fessed by all scholars to be doubtful, yet the Assyriologues read all theirs with such smoothness and certainty? Queries are seldom inserted, even in the readings of names of countries, towns, and rivers. Considering the uncertainty of Assyrian, what can we expect from the so-called Accadian or Summerian language? This is, according to the Assyriologues, a Turanian language, and the decipherers take advantage of this denomination, and explain the so-called Accadian fragments by words taken from all the Turanian idioms. We may find the first word Turkish, the second Mongol, the third Finnish, and so on. Can such a solution be logically admitted? It may be doubted. Indeed M. Halévy has published an essay (Journal Asiatique) in which he tries to prove that the so-called Accadian words are nothing else than an abbreviate writing of the Assyrian. In the case of some words he gives plausible evidence, but, if he has not succeeded in proving that the undeciphered lines of the tablets do not contain any other language than Assyrian, he has, at all events, persuaded many, and most of those who are Turanian scholars, that this column cannot be Turanian. In another essay he goes into detail about the Cuneiform character, in order to show that this style of writing was invented for a Semitic dialect.

M. Lenormant publishes every six months a volume on Accadian, in which he clearly proves that he is little of a Semitic and nothing of a Turanian scholar. Dr. Delitzsch follows in M. Lenormant's footsteps. He, how-Dr. Delitzsch ever, has one advantage: he makes frequent reference to Talmudical words. He is certainly right in doing so, but is not sufficiently trained in this idiom; and his knowledge is derived from dictionaries only. This is clearly proved, as M. Halévy points out, when he translates the word (Jer. Talm., Sabbath I. 3) as a proper name, damanya, whilst it means "of to be read de manya. If an author makes such a blunder in a language perfectly known, how can we trust his translation of Assyrian and Accadian? In one word, an Assyrian student must be well acquainted with other Semitic dialects; and an Accadian investigator, if he

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makes it a Turanian dialect, must be a fair Turanames it a furnish disaster, must be a fair lara-nian scholar, that is a condition sine quá non. But we are afraid that few fulfil these require-ments. Neither the mutual praise of the Assyrio-logues one of the other, nor their united hostility logues one of the other, nor their united hostility to opponents, however wrong they may be, is the way of arriving at the truth. M. Renan is right in saying, in his admirable annual Report to the Société Asiatique in Paris:—"Dans une science sérieuse, cultivée par un certain nombre de personnes, les partis pris, les fins de non recevoir sont tout à fait impuissants contre la vérité. L'exemple de Grotefend est ici bon à citer. La façon dont il était arrivé à ses resultats tait singulière que pendant quarante ans on était si singulière que pendant quarante ans on refusa de croire à sa découverte. Pendant ces quarante ans, il vécut fort tranquille, et à ceux quarante aus, il vecut fort tranquille, et a ceux qui le demandaient comment il avait eu cette force d'âme, il repondait, 'Rien de plus simple, j'étais sûr d'avoir raison et qu'on le verrait un jour.' Les problèmes que nous ont légués les hiérogrammates de l'ancienne Chaldée sont si singuliers que plus d'une fois peut-être encore ceux qui s'appliquent à les résoudre auront besoin de s'armer de patience et de modération."

samer de patience et de modération."

Let us conclude our sketch with the mention of three works. A first part of 'Essays on the History of Semitic Religion,' in German, by Count H. W. Baudissin, is methodically arranged, and the author is well read in his subject, but he trusts too easily to the Assyriologues. Prof. A. de Gubernatis has written in French the 'History of Oriental Studies in Italy,' which was laid before the Oriental Congress at St. Petersburg. Benfey did the same some years ago for Germany. Such books are certainly of the greatest historical value. M. de Gubernatis has also undertaken the editorship of a Bulletin for Oriental Studies. We value. M. de cubernatis has also undertaken the editorship of a Bulletin for Oriental Studies. We eongratulate him on this excellent idea, for Oriental researches are now so much pursued that they deserve a special organ for critical bibliography.

MR. FORMAN'S 'SHELLEY.'

MAY I venture to trouble you with a word or two in reference to 'The Poetical Works of Percy Bysshe Shelley,' edited by Mr. Buxton Forman, of which two volumes have now appeared, merely to say that the dedication of the work to myself, which I accented as a matter of courtery is not to which I accepted as a matter of courtesy, is not to be taken in any way as a sanction or authority for anything which has appeared, or which may appear, in that edition. PERCY F. SHELLEY.

THE TWO PRINCES.

THE following memoranda we have been enabled to print by the kindness of Sir T. D. Hardy. They refer to the burial of the Princes in the Abbey. Dean Stanley in a foot-note in his "Memorials" sends his readers for details to his Appendix, but there we have been unable to find them. The first document is an order for a marble

offin for the two Princes.

These are to signific His Mates pleasure that you provide a White Marble Coffin for the supyou provide a White Marble Coffin for the sup-posed bodyes of ye two Princes lately found in ye Tower of London & that you cause the same to be intered in Henry ye 7th Chappell in such Con-venient place as the Deane of Westmr shall appoynt And this shalbe yo Warrt. Given vndr my hand this 18th day of February 167‡. To Sr Christopher Wrenn Knt Surveyor Generall of His Marks Worker." His Mates Workes."

The second directs the burial in Henry the Seventh's chapel.

"My Lord, His Mate hath comanded that the "My Lord, His Mase hath comanded that the Bodyes of the two Princes lately found in ye Tower of London supposed to be the bodyes of Edward the fifth & the Duke of York should be intered in Henry the Seaventhes Chappelle J have therefore desired Sr Christopher Wrenn His Mase Surveyor, to attend yor Lordpp for yor Order & directions for a Convenient place for ye Jnterment accordingly. To the Reverend Father in God the Lord Bpp. of Rochester Deane of Westmr."

Vide 'Book of Warrants of Several Sorts, 1674 to 1676,' page 131.

In Dart's 'Westmonasterium,' vol. i. p. 167, the following passage occurs:—"(Vault of James I.) In the same vault lies interred Anne of Denmark, his Queen.... On her coffin is no inscription, but the leaden urn which contained her bowels had Anna Regina, and the year 1619 on the top; which urn, by what means I know not, is now in the vault of General Monk; perhaps removed there by workmen, when this vault was opened for the bones of Edward V. and his brother."

for the bones of Edward V. and his brother."

And at p. 169 he says:—"Between the two former" (monuments of Princess Mary and Sophia, daughters of James the First), "and fixed in the east wall of this aisle is a beautiful altar of White Marble, as here represented. This was erected by King Charles II. to the memory of King Edward V. and his brother, who by their treacherous uncle Richard were ordered to be smothered in the Tower, now called the Bloody Tower, being near the Watergate. This horrid act was committed by Miles Egypset & John Digitton under the comby Miles Forest & John Dighton under the command of Sir James Tyrrel, after which their bodies mand of Sir James Tyrrel, after which their bodies were buried in a great heap of rubbish near the foot stairs of ther Lodging; where is now raised the Terrace on the left hand as you go from the inner arch of the Water Gate to the Tower Chapel near the staircase of that Terrace. But here they rested not long for King Richard gave orders to rested not long for King Richard gave orders to remove them; which care was committed to the priest of the Tower, who dying soon after, left the world in the dark as to the place. Various were the conjectures of the Historians for many years. Sir James Tyrrell, when he was in the Tower for High Treason against King Henry VII. being examined concerning this matter together with Dighton confessed the Murther & circumstance, perhaps as melancholy as most, which some of our Historians give at large; but they confessed they knew not the place of the second burial. Others (as Historians love to work in the dark) write, that Sir Robert Brackenbury's priest closed write, that Sir Robert Brackenbury's priest closed them in leaden Boxes full of boles, and let them down into the Sea at the Mouth of the Thames, in a place called the Black Deeps. But however this story was represented the place was brought to light after 200 years; for in July 1674 there being orders to rebuild some offices & clear the being orders to rebuild some offices & clear the White Tower from those adjoining, as they were taking away the Stairs going from the King's Lodging into the Chapel of the White Tower the Workmen discovered about 10 Feet deep in the Ground some small human bones in a Wooden Chest; which bones being nicely examined were found to have been those of two boys the one 13, the other 11 years of age; the skull of one whole, but the other broken by the labourers as were several of the other bones and likewise the Chest: Who not heeding them, cast them away with the rubbish, whereupon they were commanded to sift it & so preserved all the bones. This being brought to the ears of King Charles II., his Majesty ordered them to be put in a Marble Urn & reposited here.

reposited here.

H. S. S.
Reliquiæ
Edwardi Vⁿ. Regis Angliæ et Richardi Ducis
Eboracensis.

Hos, Fratres Germanos Turre Londinensi conclusos
Injectisq3 Culcitris suffocatos
Abdite et inhoneste tumulari jussit
Patruus Richardus Perfidus Regni Prædo:
Ossa desideratorum diu et multum Quæsita,
post annos CXC&I
Scalarum in ruderibus (Scalæ istæ ad Sacellum
Turris Albæ nuper ducebant)
Alte defossa, indiciis Certissimis sunt reperta
XVII die Julii A'. D'. MDCLXXIIII
Carolus II Rex clementissimus acerbam sortem miseratus
Inter avita monumenta principibus infelicissimis
justa Persolvit
Anno Dom. 1678 Annoq3 Regni sui 30."
Sandford. in his 'Genealogical History of the

Sandford, in his 'Genealogical History of the Kings of England,' &c., pp. 427, gives almost word for word Dart's account, with the following addition:—"The Circumstances from Story being

considered and the Same often discoursed with the Rt. Hon. Sir Thomas Chichester, Knt. Master of the Ordnance, by whose industry the New Buildings were then carrying on, & by whom this matter was reported to the King: Upon the presumptions that these were the bones of the said princes, his Majesty King Charles II. was graciously pleased to command, that the said bones should be put into a marble Urn, & deposited among the reliques of the Royal Family in the Chapel of King Henry VII. in Westminster Abbey."

WAITING FOR THE MAY.'

Mr. D. F. MACCARTHY has sent us a very long Mr. D. F. MacCarthy has sent us a very long letter, a great deal too long for us to print. In February, 1858, we published a letter from Mr. MacCarthy claiming as his own a poem called 'Waiting for the May,' which Mr. S. Lover, in his 'Lyrics of Ireland,' had printed and assigned to Clarence Mangan. Mr. Lover wrote promising that the error should be corrected (Athen. No. 1584), but Mr. MacCarthy has just discovered that no change has been made at all, although he work has enjoyed a large sale since that time, and the proprietors, Messrs. Houlston & Wright, keep it still in circulation. still in circulation.

Literary Gossip.

Dr. Schliemann is not going to keep the public long in suspense. Mr. Murray announces as in the press 'Discoveries on the Site of Ancient Mycenæ,' by Dr. Henry Schliemann. A German Correspondent has sent us some details of the excavations, which will be found in another column.

THE Rev. Malcolm MacColl has in the press a book on the Eastern Question. aims at furnishing information on the administrative organization of Turkey, and on the voluntary self-government of the Christian communities, so far as the rule of the Porte permits. But this is subordinate to the main object of the book, which is to prove that the Turkish Government is not only bad, but incurable; so that to maintain its independence is, in reality, to accept the responsibility of misdeeds which, as Mr. MacColl contends, are inseparable from its independence. This leads to a chapter on the rule of the Arabs in Sicily and Spain, in which Mr. MacColl disputes the correctness of several received opinions. The argument of the book diverges into more than one side issue—as, for instance, a chapter on the conduct of Russia, and another on the policy of the Government as revealed in last year's Blue Books.

THE Duke of Wellington is going to issue a sixth volume of the Civil and Political Correspondence of his father, in continuation of the former series. This volume bears upon the Eastern Question in the years 1828 and 1829, &c., as the following extracts from the list of contents show: The Eastern Question in 1829; Designs of Russian Intrigues; Affairs of Turkey; The Greek Question; The Duke's Observations on the Treaty of Adrianople; Remonstrance to Russia; Sovereignty of Greece, &c.

NEXT month will be published, by Mr. Murray, the first volume (A-D), of the long expected 'Dictionary of Christian Biography, Literature, Sects, and Doctrines, edited by Dr. Smith and Prof. Wace, M.A. This work and the companion 'Dictionary of Christian Antiquities,' are intended to form a comprehensive Cyclopædia of Ecclesiastical History for the first eight centuries of the Christian Era.

They commence where the 'Dictionary of the Bible' leaves off, and cease at the age of Charlemagne. When the plan was formed, the editorship of the Dictionary of Biography was placed in the hands of Profs. Lightfoot and Westcott, under the general superintendence of Dr. William Smith, but the pressure of other engagements compelled them before long to relinquish the task.

Among the contributors to the Dictionaries are Prof. Churchill Babington, Canon Barry, Dr. Benson, the Rev. C. W. Boase, Mr. Bradshaw (the Cambridge Librarian), Prof. Bright, Prof. Bryce, Dr. Cazenove, Prof. Cheetham, Prof. Growell, the Rev. J. Llewelyn Davies, the late Bishop of Brechin, Prof. Gibbings, Dr. Ginsburg, the late Rev. A. West Haddan, Dr. Hort, Mr. Hullah, the Rev. William Jackson, Prof. Lightfoot, Prof. Lipsius (of Jena), Mr. Ludlow, the Rev. J. H. Lupton, Dr. Maclean, Prof. Milligan, Prof. Plumptre, M. E. De Pressensé, Canon Raine, Dean Reeves, Prof. Salmon, Dr. Scrivener, the Rev. R. Sinker, the Dean of Westminster, Dr. Stuart (of the Register House, Edinburgh), Prof. Stubbs, Canon Swainson, Canon Venables, Prof. Westcott, the Rev. George Williams, the Rev. John Wordsworth, and Mr. Aldis Wright.

The title of Tourguénief's new novel, which we were the first to announce, is best rendered by the French word Nouveauté, the meaning being, however, rather young men than new things. The first portion appeared in the Vyestnik Yevropy for January, and the second will appear in the February number of the same magazine. The socialists are pleased with the first part.

Mr. Knowles's connexion with the Contemporary Review has ceased, and he is about to assume the control of a periodical to be

styled The XIXth Century.

Under the title of the *Portrait*, a new weekly shilling journal is about to appear, which, in the words of the prospectus, will "illustrate the time we live in by means of photographs and memoirs of those who adorn or disgrace it." Writers "of ability and of known modesty" will be invited to supply their own memoirs, "which will not be charged for as advertisements." A mong the first portraits published will be those of the Earl of Beaconsfield, Mr. W. E. Forster, M.P., General Tchernaieff (with a memoir by Mr. Archibald Forbes), Mr. William Black (with a memoir by himself), Mr. Tourguénief (with a memoir by Mr. W. R. S. Ralston), Mr. Swinburne, and Mr. Woolner, R.A. The publishers are Messrs. Provost & Co.

Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. will shortly issue the first number of a new monthly periodical, entitled Street Life in London, by John Thomson, F.R.G.S., and Adolphe Smith. Each part will contain three permanent photographs, specially taken from life, to illustrate the subjects under review. The object of the work is to present to the reader some account of the present condition of the London street-folk, and to supply a series of faithful pictures of the people themselves.

WE are glad to learn that the movement adopted by the University of St. Andrews for the extension of its Classes or Lectures to Dundee makes progress. A circular, issued by the Dundee Free Library Committee, and

embodied, as we have already mentioned, in their Annual Report, speaks of "the very decided success which attended the establishment of systematic lectures on chemistry, geology, physiology, and literary subjects, by the Professors of the University," during the winter of 1875-6. The success appears to the Dundee Committee "to point to the erection, at no distant day, of a regularly organized branch of the University in Dundee. From all we can hear, it will not be the fault of the University of St. Andrews if this important object is not realized. It is at present under the contemplation of the Senatus Academicus to institute Matriculated Classes in Dundee next winter, if practicable. Should the citizens of Dundee afford adequate encouragement, there seems no reason, there-fore, why a fully equipped Faculty of Science, with subsidiary Literary Classes, fitted to prepare for the more advanced classes in the Faculty of Arts, should not be established in this large community, which, in the course of another year, will be riveted to St. Andrews by the Tay Bridge, now approaching completion. The University has entered into the movement warmly, and some of its Professors have directly promoted it, at no inconsiderable self-sacrifice. The Science Classes have been instituted again this winter, and will be continued during the greater part of the session. It would seem, therefore, to remain with the community of Dundee to give permanent form to the movement, and so make themselves direct sharers in the academical advantages and prestige which would come from the institution amongst them of a regularly organized branch of the University of St. Andrews.

WE regret to have to announce the death of Mr. Oates, of the eminent publishing firm of Burns & Oates. He died quite suddenly, on the morning of Thursday, the 28th of December, from congestion of the brain.

Mr. Doyne Bell is preparing, and Mr. Murray will publish, 'Notices of the Historic Interments in the Church of St. Peter ad Vincula, in the Tower of London,' to which will be added an account of the discovery of the remains of Queen Anne Boleyn.

Mr. Paterson, of Edinburgh, will shortly publish a new translation of 'Gil Blas,' with notes. The notes which are to be appended to the new version will point out the places where Smollett allowed himself either to skip a sentence or to trip in his appreciation of the French original.

THE Eastern Question Association, founded by a resolution of the recent National Conference, which began its labours by printing a full Report of the Conference, has been distributing a considerable number of copies of Sir George Campbell's 'Handy Book' amongst the Free Libraries and Working Men's Clubs throughout the country.

A LEIPZIG Correspondent informs us that Dr. Bücheler has, after all, declined the invitation to fill Ritschl's place; but that Prof. Ribbeck has accepted the chair.

Mr. W. F. Tillotson, of the Bolton Evening News, and his company of provincial newspaper proprietors, who have published the most recent of Miss Braddon's novels in their weekly journals, have made arrangements with Mr. Joseph Hatton to follow that lady's

present serial story with a new novel, to be commenced in the autumn of the present year.

The University of London holds a Matriculation Examination this week, at Edinburgh, under the auspices of the London University Institute of Scotland, and under the superintendence of Mr. F. Stock, Sub-Examiner, and the Rev. W. M. Ramssy, President of the Institute. This is the first examination which the London University has held north of the Tweed.

The biography of the late Mr. George Moore, written by a personal friend, is in the press. It will be published early in February. A number of documents, left in manuscript by the deceased, have been placed in the hands of his biographer. The book will contain a portrait of Mr. Moore, and some woodcuts, including a view of Mealsgate, his birthplace, from a drawing by his widow.

The death is announced of the Rev. Richard Cobbold, of Wortham, Suffolk. The deceased gentleman was the author of a number of books, both of a religious and secular character; one of the most popular of the latter, at the time of its publication, being 'Adventures of Margaret Catchpole.' Mr. Thomas Lewin, the author of an elaborate work on the Life and Travels of St. Paul, is dead. The death of Prof. Brockhaus, the well-known Sanskritist, is reported.

PROF. DE GUBEENATIS writes to say that he omitted to mention in his article on the Literature of Italy during 1876 the death of two distinguished philosophers, Prof. Giovanni Maria Bertini, of Turin, and the Lombard Deputy, Giuseppe Ferrari, who was Professor at the Accademia Scientifico-Letteraria of Milan. Another Correspondent informs us that Pericles Czikos is not, as Prof. de Gubernatis supposed, a pseudonym. M. Czikos, or Tzikos, as our Correspondent calls him, is, it seems, a Greek, and in 1869 entered into competition with Dr. Johnson, by publishing a tragedy styled 'Irene.'

Mr. Saburov, writing from Penza on the subject of a free imitation of an epigram by Pushkin, published in a review of Mr. Barkley's book on Bulgaria (Athenœum, No. 2559), favours us with this nearly literal translation of the same:—

It isn't that thou art a Pole,
Kosciùszko, Mickiewicz were such
Be thou a Jew or a Mongol—
I shouldn't mind thy country much.
But what sustains my wrath and spleen
Is that thou art Vidocq Figlareen.

"This almost literal translation," remarks Mr. Saburov, "demonstrates that the name of Bulgarin was not even mentioned in the original epigram; and our literary chronicle says that this name was inserted there instead of the name Vidocq Figlareen (having reference to the famous French spy, and to the word 'figlar,' a popular designation for a jongleur) by Bulgarin himself, who wished to prove his grandeur dâme in printing the verse in a journal published by him. The chronicle adds that the poet, however, was not inclined to appreciate this magnanimous act, and was going so far as to plead before a tribunal in order to obtain that Bulgarin should pay to the publisher of the poems of Pushkin indemnities for having printed the epigram without his authorization, and that Bulgarin should publish the original text of the verse without any alteration. I am not able to reproduce here the decision of the tribunal, which can have but very little interest for your fellow-countrymen."

THE Kaisar-i-Hind controversy has spread

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interest spread

to India. Lord Lytton has brought forward Sir William Muir as a rival claimant for the authorship of the title to Dr. Leitner. According to the Friend of India, his Excellency said,-

"Whilst the Queen, in accordance with the advice of Her Majesty's present Ministers, had assumed the title of Empress of India, there was only one man who could make Her Majesty Kaisar-i-Hind, and the man to whom Her Majesty was indebted for this title, by which she would henceforth be popularly known and revered throughout her vast Indian dominions, was no other than his honourable friend, Sir William Muir."

We believe, though, that Dr. Leitner invented the title some months before Sir William Muir, and therefore deserves the credit, or discredit, of the suggestion.

WE cannot, as we said last week, publish any more letters on this subject, but we may mention that Dr. Birdwood desires to thank Mr. Caldwell for withdrawing the charge that Dr. Birdwood took part in the controversy as the mouthpiece of the India Office. Mr. Caldwell withdrew the charge some time ago, but Dr. Birdwood was not aware of this.

MR. Hodson's scheme for the commemoration of the four hundredth anniversary of the introduction of printing into England is now assuming definite shape and proportion. The adhesion of many distinguished names has already been obtained, and the Provisional Committee is holding its meetings, by the courtesy of the governors, in the Library of the Bank of England.

Mr. Murray has in the press 'A Sketch of the Life of the First Lord Abinger, including a Fragment of his Autobiography, and Extracts from his Correspondence, by his son, the Hon. P. Campbell Scarlett, C.B.

SCIENCE

THE GOVERNMENT FUND.

THE manner in which the 4,000*l.* granted by the Government for aiding scientific work will be distributed by the Royal Society is rapidly becoming a burning question, and the Royal Society may be said to be on its trial. It is true that the Presidents of the other scientific Societies at the Presidents of the other scientific Societies are to be associated with its Council in the distribution of the grant; but as almost every one of these Presidents is a Fellow of the Royal Society, and as the Society has long ago given over all its power to the Council, it is practically the latter which disposes of the money. Indeed, Dr. Hooker hinted as much in his last anniversary address. It was natural and right that the Royal Society should be selected to take charge, in the first instance, of the grant; but it by no means follows from this that the Royal Society ought to been to itself the whole recovered experiences. keep to itself the whole power of apportioning the money to individual applicants. Various plans have been put forward for settling this point, and among the ideas thrown out and discussed in the ten-rooms of Burlington House there is one deserving of attention. According to it, the Royal Society is to distribute (not necessarily in equal parts) at least a large portion of the money among the different scientific Societies, leaving each Society free to use its share as it thinks best, and only imposing the conditions that no portion of this fund posing the conditions that he portion of the shall be employed in defraying the expenses of the ordinary working machinery of the Society, and that those who manage the apportionment of the funds shall not themselves be recipients of grants. This "self-denying ordinance" needs also to be applied in the Royal Society itself; and the fact that it has not yet been introduced, is enough to excite the gravest apprehensions as to

the manner in which the Society will perform its trust. Unless the rule be adopted, and that speedily, we shall have the most famous of scientific bodies disgraced by intrigues, and the money given for the advance of science will prove a curse. It is only by enacting that no one shall have a chance of voting money to himself shall have a chance of voting money to himself that the Society can prevent the fund being treated as so much loot. Not merely might certain members of the present Council have strong personal interest in the distribution of the money, but the bias each of them possesses regarding special theories and doctrines makes them unfitted for the adjudication of many applications. This last-named difficulty can never be wholly obviated, but its mischievous consequences would be greatly diminished by the adoption of the plan explained above. It is easy to

quences would be greatly diminished by the adoption of the plan explained above. It is easy to see that the merits of a request for a grant to carry on, say, a chemical investigation, would be discussed with much more fairness by the Chemical Society than by the two or three chemists on the Council of the Royal.

The Chemical Society is a fairly good judge of the merits of English chemists and the worth of their researches. The Royal Society, with the exception of the few chemists in it, knows little more about them than the general public. It is better that a chemist's claims should be judged by his brethren than that he should be forced to win the favour of than that he should be forced to win the favour of two or three Fellows of the Royal if he wishes for help in original research.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

WE understand that Pundit Nain Singh, the successful Indian scientific explorer, having become unfit for further work, chiefly through illnesses contracted in climates of extreme rigour, like contracted in climates of extreme rigour, like Tibet, has been strongly recommended by the Government of India for the grant of a village in Rohilcund and of a sum of 100l. The "Pundit," as this energetic and enterprising traveller has been known for many years to English readers, was originally in the service of the Schlagintweits during the years 1856.7, he then become head was originally in the service of the Schlagintweits during the years 1856-7; he then became head master of a school in Kumaon, and after that was trained in survey work to qualify him for transfrontier exploration. His first great exploit consisted in the survey of the upper course of the Brahmaputra, from Lake Mansarowar to Lhasa. This was rewarded by the Royal Geographical Society by the present of a gold watch, which was unfortunately subsequently stolen by one of the Pundit's own pupils. His other great feat (which has mainly helped to shatter his constitution) was his survey of over 1,300 miles (also in Tibetan territory) from Ladak, by a hitherto unknown route, to Lhasa, and thence by the Towang route into British territory. This remarkable journey was noticed in these columns some months back, and we are much gratified at finding that the hope and we are much gratified at finding that the hope we then expressed, that such services would be fitly rewarded, has been justified.

The Bremen Verein für die Deutsche Nordpolarfahrt has turned itself into a Geographical

Society, considering that the German plan for the scientific exploration of the Arctic regions is too extensive for a private society to grapple with, and must be taken up by Government. The Society is to publish a Quarterly, of which Dr. Moriz Lindemann is to be editor.

The last number of Petermann's Mittheilungen is exclusively devoted to Arctic matters. There are papers on Prof. Nordenskiöld's navigation of the Kara Sea in 1876, when he reached the mouth of the Yenisei without being impeded by the ice; on Brehm, Finsch, and Zeil's journey to the Lower Ob; and on our own Arctic Expedition. Dr. Petermann traces the history of Smith Sound exploration down to the present time, and criticizes the results of the late Expedition in an appreciative spirit. There is also an interesting letter from Capt. Weyprecht, who is of opinion that the heavy masses of ice seen by Capt. Nares can be ascribed only to pressure, resulting in floes over-riding each other, and not to the ordinary process of freezing. In the forthcoming The last number of Petermann's Mittheilungen

number will be published an interesting ethnological map of the Russian Empire, based upon Rittich's and Venyukof's maps, and accompanied by a valuable memoir on the races of Russia.

Mr. Murray has two narratives of travel in the press, 'The Cradle of the Blue Nile, a Journey through the Mountains of Abyssinia and the Plains of Soudan, and Residence at the Court of King John of Ethiopia,' by Mr. E. A. de Cosson; and 'Pioneering in South Brazil: Three Years of Forest and Prairie Life in the Province of Paranâ,' by Mr. T. P. Bigg Wither.

SOCIETIES

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Jan. 8.—Sir R. Alcock, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Sir J. H. Kennaway, Bart., M.P., Rear-Admiral the Right Hon. Lord Gilford, Capt. H. C. Marsh, Dr. J. G. da Cunha, Messrs. E. Brass, H. R. Brown, T. H. Crane, I. Davis, W. C. Harvey, W. G. Horncastle, W. G. F. Hunt, G. Inverarity, F. G. Lewin, F. H. Lyell, J. S. O'Halloran, T. Parkin, C. B. Renshaw, E. C. Rogers, and G. Thorpe.—The paper read was 'On the Russian Expedition to the Alai and Pamir,' by Mr. R. Michell.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.-Jan. BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Jan.
3.—H. Syer Cuming, Esq., in the chair.—Several fragments of the Roman pavement discovered in 1875 opposite Crosby Hall were exhibited by Mr. R. E. Way. The pavement was hardly noticed at the period of its discovery, owing to the rapidity with which it was either covered up or destroyed. It had tesserse of red and white, and it most probably formed a part of the large Roman villa of which much of the foundations (well-known) was set with several years ago, and the Royal Street. met with several years ago in Old Broad Street. Mr. Way also exhibited sundry other objects of Mr. Way also exhibited sundry other objects of interest, including some sling stones from Sidbury Castle, near Sidmouth.—The Rev. C. Boutell presented to the Association and described a capital series of photographs of the Misereres of the old stalls of Worcester Cathedral, executed probably between the years 1375 and 1400. They were removed in 1551, and have recently been restored by Mr. Perkins and replaced in the choir, but their exact arrangement has been lost.—Mr. L. Brock read a communication from the Rev. Prependary Scarth, reporting the discovery of two Brock read a communication from the Rev. Pre-bendary Scarth, reporting the discovery of two Roman pigs of lead among the débris of mining works at Charterhouse, on the Mendip Hills, and bearing the name of Vespasian.—Mr. W. Money announced the discovery of an ancient chimney-piece, of fifteenth-century workmanship, in clear-ing away the site for the municipal buildings at Nawbury, and a drawing was avhibited.—The ng away the site for the municipal buildings at Newbury, and a drawing was exhibited.—The Rev. S. M. Mayhew exhibited several interesting fictile vessels—a costrel with three loops, a Roman vessel to which a snail still adhered, and a fragment of figured pottery, made probably in the Rhine Provinces, in imitation of Arezzo ware. The interest, however, centred in an ancient frag-ment of a vessel with Chinese characters found with the Roman relics, and affording evidence of the extent of Roman commerce.—Mrs. Baily sent a curious Italian water-bottle, of seventeenth-cena curious Italian water-bottle, of seventeenth-century work, in the form of a melon.—The first paper read was by Mr. C. Lyman, descriptive of the ancient crosses of Staffordshire, and illustrated by a large collection of drawings and casts. These represented several of Saxon date, and the similarity to those of Ireland, Wales, Scotland, and Cornwall was pointed out.—The second paper was by Mr. C. W. Dymond, 'On Megalithic Antiquities of Stanton-on-Drew'; and the Chairman read some notes descriptive of several little known Roman effigies in the churches of Norfolk, and which are of considerable interest.

LINNEAN.—Dec. 21.—Prof. Allman, President, in the chair.—Mr. T. Christy and Mr. R. Drane were elected Fellows.—The description of two new and remarkable forms of Deep-sea Ascidians was given by Mr. H. N. Moseley of H.M.S. Challenger. One trawled in the North Pacific from 2,900 fathoms, cup-like, and allied to Boltenia, he names

Hybythius calcycodes. It has a series of symmetrical cartilaginous plates on its soft test. other ascidian, Octacnemus bythius, was obtained at 1,070 fathoms. This is star-shaped, and in several respects its anatomical structure is quite peculiar, and totally unlike already-known living forms.—A commercial cane, termed "Whangee," a species of Phyllostachys, formed the subject of a note by Mr. J. R. Jackson. He regards that, in the trade, as the rhizome and not the stem; and the pale colour he thinks produced by bleaching .-A second botanical paper, by Mr. M. Hartog, gave the results of some investigations on the Morphology of Species of Thunbergia. Microscopical sections of T. laurifolia in its earlier stages reveal axillary buds inside the sixth and eighth pair of bracts, the basal elevations becoming pedicel and bractlets, and inside these by repetition sister-buds arise. The flowers are thus axillary buds, formed in succession from the axis outwards, and are as independent as if they had arisen side by side .-A new Hornbill (Craniorrhinus Waldeni), from the island of Panay, Philippines, was described by Mr. R. B. Sharpe. It is allied to C. cassidix, and was shot in a dense forest in a mountainous range of the above island.-In the extract of a letter, Dr. J. Anderson details some curious facts witnessed by him in the Calcutta Zoological Gardens. Two Hornbills, Hydrocissa albirostris and Aceros subruficollis, daily devour sparrows and other small birds; these they toss about in their bill, break every bone in their body, and then swallow head foremost.—Mr. A. G. Butler gave an abstract of a memoir 'On the Butterflies of Malacca.' Of 258 species registered, 36 are endemic; of the remainder, 65 also belong to Assam or Nepal, 38 to Moulmein, 33 to Ceylon, 94 to Penang, 46 to Singapore, 112 to Borneo, 41 to Sumatra, 87 to 39 to Siam, 26 to China, 2 to New Hebrides, and 6 to Australia. Thus this section of the Malaccan Fauna shows decided proclivities to the Indian geographical region.—The small inner ear-bones (auditory ossicles) of the mammalia, Mr. A. Doran has worked out in detail. In the abstract of his memoir read at the meeting, certain groups only were referred to. These bones in the insectivora are deficient in positive characters: in the bats they approach those of the shrews, though Pteropus shows lower type; those of whales are of a generalized form; whilst the manatee group are peculiar both in their density and shape; armadillos, sloths, and ant-eaters, all coming under the Edentata, nevertheless show great distinctions among themselves, so far as their ear ossicles are concerned; the kangaroo and other pouched animals manifest a low grade; and the bones in the Echidna and Ornithorhynchus still descend as regards form, tending, as it were, to those of birds and reptiles. Mr. Doran's researches show that even in what may be considered minor particulars, characters indicative of alliance are revealed.—Actemorpha crosa is a new genus and species of Australian crustacean described by Mr. E. J. Miers. It closely resembles some of the Cancroidea, along with which it was dredged from seven fathoms; but structurally it belongs to the family Leucosiidæ,-Dr. B. White brought forward a paper 'On the Genital Armature in a Group of the European Lepidoptera (Rhopalocera).' The organs in question, according to him, present such varied characters as to induce him to regard these as of importance to entomologists in their classification, not only of larger groups, but even significant of specific and generic forms.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Jan. 2.—Prof. Newton, V.P., in the chair.—The Secretary read a Report on the additions made to the menagerie during December.

—Prof. Newton exhibited and made remarks on a specimen of a variety of the Guillemot (Alca troile), with yellow bill and legs, lately shot on the south coast of England .- Papers and communications were read : by Prof. Garrod, 'On the Osteology and Visceral Anatomy of the Ruminantia, in which many facts concerning the anatomy of the Cervide and the Cavicornia were brought forward, especially with reference to the shape of the liver and the structure of the generative organs

in these animals; among the most important of these was the observation that the uterine mucous membrane of the Musk Deer (Moschus moschi-ferus) presents no indications of the presence of cotyledons, the contrary being the case in all other Ruminants; Prof. Garrod likewise made a suggestion as to the proposed method of expressing the relations of species by means of formulæ,—by Messrs. Sclater and Salvin on eight new species of South American birds, namely, 1, Euphonia Finschi; 2, Pheuticus crissalis; 3, Octhæca leucometopa; 4, Octhæca arenacea; 5, Chloronerpes dignus; 6, Celeus subflavus; 7, Chamæpelia Buckleyi; 8, Crax erythrognatha,—by Mr. R. B. Sharpe, 'On some New Species of Warblers from Madagascar,' recently added to the collection in the British Museum, and proposed to be called Apalis cerviniventris, Bæocerca fluviventris, and Dromæocercus brunneus, the last named being a new genus, from Madagascar,—from Mr. G. S. Brady, 'On Freshwater Mites' which had been obtained from lakes and ponds in England and Ireland.

MICROSCOPICAL. - Jan. 3.-C. Brooke, Esq., V.P., in the chair.-A list of donations to the Society was read and acknowledged, and four new Fellows were elected,-Mr. Jackson and Mr. Gay were elected Auditors, and nominations of gentlemen as Officers and Council-to be elected at the ensuing Annual Meeting—took place. Dr. Wal-lich read a paper 'On the Development, Reproduction, and Surface Markings of Diatoms, illustrating the subject by drawings.—A paper was read by Mr. J. W. Stephenson, descriptive of some curious diffraction experiments, exhibited by Prof. Albe during a recent visit to this country, by which it appeared that the use of "diffraction gratings," in connexion with stops of various kinds placed above the back combination of the objective, were competent to produce precisely the same appearances as were observed in certain well-known test-objects. The paper was illustrated by coloured drawings, and gave rise to a discussion, in which Dr. Wallich, Mr. Ingpen, Dr. Lettsom, and Mr. Stephenson took part. Some mercury globules, mounted in balsam, were exhibited under the micro-polariscope by Mr. Stephenson for Mr. Slack, producing some very curious and interesting

ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE. - Jan. 9. - Col. A. Lane Fox, President, in the chair. — Mr. Moseley, naturalist to the Challenger Expedition, read an account of the inhabitants of the Admiralty Islands. He considered that in their arts, as shown in the ornamentation of their weapons, &c., they resembled the natives of New Guinea, while in a peculiar note in their chants or singing he noticed a strong Fijian re-semblance. Their manner of hafting the stone implements differed from that in other groups, the stone being fixed in a slot in the wood. Obsidian spear and knife heads were shown, the mounting of the Obsidian flakes in the spear-heads being effected with a strong gum and twine. The lecturer described the customs, dress, and manners of the natives, and gave some thirty-five words of the language. The whole was illustrated with maps, sketches, and numerous objects. - The President and Prof. Rolleston took part in the discussion .- Mr. J. P. Harrison read the Report on recent excavations at Cissbury Camp, which was followed by a discussion, in which the President, Prof. Rolleston, and Canon Greenwell took part.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

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London Institution, 5.—'Health Improvements in Great
Oities, Dr. B. W. Michardson.
Victoria Justitute, 8.—'Christianity considered as a Moral
Royal Academy, 8.—'Parinting,' Mr. E. Armitage.
Royal Institution, 3.—'The Human Form: its Structure in
Relation to its Contour, 'Prof. Garrot,
Statistical, 72.—'Statistics of the Affiliated Orders of Friendly
Societies (old Fellows and Foresters), Mr. E. G. P. Nelson.
Off. A. M. Doursell.

Off. A. M. Doursell.

Societies (Oilection, 'Prof. A. H. Garrot, 'Mammais of the
Argentine Republic,' Mr. J. Humford, 'Mammais of the
Argentine Republic,' Mr. J. Control of Mr. British England
Economically Omnidered,' Mr. G. C. T. Bartley; 'Railway
Waltes and Reclamations,' Mr. Hyde Clarke.

British Archeological Association, 8.— 'The Suzz Canal, Ancient and Modern,' Mr. J. W. Grover; 'Siegburg Stonsware,' Mr. W. H. Syer Cuming.

Royal Institution, 2.— 'Metals, and the Chief Industrial Uses of these Bodies and their Compounds,' Dr. Wright.

London Institution, 7.— Illustrated Musical Lecture, Prof. J.

cal, 3.—' New Reactions in Organic Chemistry and their mate Bearings, 'Mesers C. T. Kingzett and H. W. Hake; kulé and Ladenburgh's Benzene Symbols,' Mr. H. & strong; 'Nitrosoorein,' Mesirs, J. Steuhouse and G. E.

byal Academy, 8.— Painting, Mr. E. Armitage.

innean, 8.— Early Paintings in Rempley Church, Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite; Seals of the Statutum Mercatorum, Dr. C. S. Perceval. Dr. C. S. Percevan. Royal, 53.
Psychological, 85.—Communications of Psychological Facis and Pracamena: 'Psychology of the Human Voice, Prof. Plumptre: 'Some more Phanomena of Sleep and Dream,'

Psychological, 83.—Communications of Psychological Pacis and Pneaomena: Psychology of the Human Voice, Prof. Plumptre; Some more Phanomena of Siesp and Dream, Mr. Serjesant Cox.
Philological, 8.—'un "here" and "there" in Chaucar, Dr. Weymouth.
Royal Institution, 9.—'Combat with an Infective Atmosphere, Prof. Tyndall.
Phyritical Production of Columnar Structure, Mr. W. C. Roberts.

Roberts

Royal Institution, 2.—'The Nature of Music: the Italian,

French, and German Schools,' Mr. Ernst Fauer.

Botanic, 3j.—General.

Science Gossip.

THE scheme for making the "Loan Collection" permanent is still struggling, though feebly, for realization. The foreign agents, who have come over to take away the various objects sent to the Exhibition from abroad, are urgently entreated to delay the packing for a little while, as "it is almost certain that the means for purchasing the objects will be forthcoming from the Government." This sounds somewhat alarming; but we have the satisfaction of knowing that it is only two or three of the once long list of supporters who cherish hopes of this kind and express themselves accordingly; the great majority of those who early this summer signed (by means of printed post-cards) the memorial to the Duke of Richmond, have quietly withdrawn their support; whilst a few of them, men influential in the Royal Society, even oppose the idea of establishing a museum after such a plan as was proposed by the pro-moters of the Loan Collection. The failure of the "guarantee" scheme is another proof that the project was never really liked by any number of scientific men.

WE regret to notice the death, on the lat of January, of Mr. C. H. H. Cheyne, M.A., F.R.A.S., at the early age of thirty-eight. He was the author of an excellent work on the Planetary Theory, the second edition of which appeared in 1870; and had been for several years a master in Westminster School.

In illustration of the recent extreme humidity of the weather, we have received from Mr. C. L. Prince, F.R.A.S., of Crowborough, near Tunbridge Wells, an account of the rainfall at his observatory and in that neighbourhood for last month. At Tunbridge Wells the fall in December amounted to 8'20 inches; at Uckfield to 7'95 inches; at Crowborough itself (which is 800 feet above the sealevel) to 9 02 inches. These numbers considerably exceed that of any previous rainfall in the month of December since Mr. Prince commenced his observations, which began at Uckfield in 1842; the fall, indeed, at the latter place is more than three times the average of that month, and has only twice been exceeded in any month, viz, in October, 1852, and October, 1865. At Crowborough a further fall of 2.12 inches took place during the first three days of the new year, which, added to that for December and 0.30 on the last day of November, makes a total rainfall of 11:44 inches in the course of thirty-five successive days, representing a weight of water of nearly 1,150

THE Council of the Society of Arts bave made arrangements for the delivery of six lectures on various scientific subjects, which will take the place of the usual papers and discussions on six Wednesday evening meetings during the session. The following gentlemen have each consented to deliver one of the lectures: Sir John Lubbock, Bart., F.R.S., E. J. Reed, Esq., C.B., M.P., Prof. W. K. Clifford, M.A., F.R.S., Prof. Alexander Kennedy, C.E., Dr. B. W. Richardson, F.R.S., and James Baillie Hamilton, Esq.

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should meet at the rooms of the Iron and Steel Institute in Victoria Street, for the purpose of discussing the subject of a paper 'On Chemical Analysis considered in its Application to Civil and Mechanical Engineering,' by Mr. Bernard Dyer, is of good omen. General agreement was expressed that the analysis of samples of materials was very important, as tending to insure greater uniformity of quality in the articles used in engineering.

FINE ARTS

The SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—The PIF-TEENTH WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES and STUDIES IS NOW OPEN.—5, Pall Mall East. Ten till Five. Admission, is. ALFRED D. FRIPP, Sec.

INSTITUTE of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS. — The ELEVENTH WINTER EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, from Ten until Six. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. Gallery, 53, Pall Mall. H. F. PHILLIPS, Sec.

DORÉ'S GREAT WORKS, 'CHRIST LEAVING the PRÆ-TORIUM,' and 'CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM' (the latter just completed), each 31 by 28 feet, with 'Dream of Pilate's Wife,' 'Christian Martyrs,' Night of the Cruciúzion,' 'House of Caiaphas,' &e, at the DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—14.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY WINTER EXHIBITION.

OLD MASTERS AND DECEASED BRITISH PAINTERS.

(Second Notice.)

Ix Gallery II. will be noticed an interesting picture of a group, styled Lady Playing a Lute (No. 27), by Gonzales Coques, from Mr. Robarts's collection. The scene is a balcony, where a lady is seated, wearing a blue dress and white lace; she plays on a lute, while at her side stands a gentleman, dressed in black, and listening to the player. The lady's beauty has faded; and her expression tells us that she is recalling her youthful days, while her companion's sad looks attest the power and the charm of the melody. This pathos is unusual in works of this class, and the picture derives from it an exceptional value. The execution is luminous, the finish exquisite, the effect as brilliant and clear as Coques's pictures generally are, while there is less mechanical smoothness than we are accustomed to from him. The grace of the actions, and the animation of the expressions, justify the high place assigned to this remarkable attist. As a portrait painter, he is seen to advantage in his excellent 'Portrait of a Lady,' among the pictures of the Wyon Ellis Gift lately added to the National Gallery; the 'Verbiest Family,' from the Radstock Collection, which is now in Buckingham Palace; and the 'Portraits of Two Gentlemen,' at Hampton Court. All these works are marked by the fine silvery tints and the luminous tones of an able artist, whose pictures are comparatively rare.

Near the Coups are three portraits ascribed to Frank Hals. Of these, the Portrait of a Dutch Lady (35), the property of Sir J. Neeld, is not at all in the style of Hals. It lacks the peculiar way, Alan, and wonderful touch of that brilliant master. Possibly it may be a fairly good work by Jan Van Ravesteyn. There are authorities, although we cannot agree with them, who recognize in the pictures of Ravesteyn some of the qualities found in those of his contemporary. Sir J. Neeld's picture is hard, glassy in the tones, and excessively smooth, and there is not a sign of the searching power that characterized the most free executant in the Dutch School. Its apparent finish is neither genuine nor learned. For instance, the mechanical treatment of the ruff about the lady's neck, though laboured, is not faithful in drawing nor modelling, nor in rendering the texture of the fabric. For ruff-painting, in which many Dutchmen of the period in question showed marvellous skill, see another 'Portrait of a Lady,' which is now at Bethnal Green, by Ravesteyn. That is a real triumph in this line. The other two examples, Portrait of a Gentleman (29) and Portrait of a Lady (38), are undoubtedly by Hals. They belong to Mrs. Newman Smith, and probably represent a husband and his wife. He is a portly Dutch cavalier, dressed in black, with gloves, wearing his own long hair trailing in abundance

on his shoulders; and he is indulging, clumsily on his shoulders; and he is indulging, clumsily enough, in a sort of heavy coquetry with the subject of the other picture, evidently the companion likeness. She offers a rose, and playfully withdraws it from his grasp. Her costume is black, her dress is open at the neck, and loaded with lace; her hair is pulled tightly off her forehead, and hangs in dancing ringlets over her ears. The wonderful skill of the artist is seen here at its best. The execution might be called brilliant in the sense we use the word when describing the its best. The execution might be called brilliant in the sense we use the word when describing the precision of a musician who has perfect command of his instrument, stroke after stroke and touch after touch having been applied with consummate felicity. The style and method of the painter is the same as that shown in his best works, and the pictures are full of the spirit, spontaneity, and tact that Hals's finest efforts never fail to exhibit. They exemplify the mode of treating light and shadow which Hals may be said to have been the first to introduce into Holland, and which Rembrandt, introduce into Holland, and which Rembrandt, with happier genius and a subtler art, carried to their logical perfection.—We may see this advance distinctly enough in the magnificent Portrait of the Painter (32), by Rembrandt, representing him as about sixty years of age, in a white cap, brown vest, and a brown mantle trimmed with the belief of the politics as a brown. In this fur, holding a palette and brushes. In this Rembrandt put a yellowish white cap on his head, concentrated the light there, making it the leading element of the chiaroscuro, and spread the illumination over the forehead, diffused it over the lower features of his face, broke it or the lower features of ins face, boke it on his neck, and, reducing its tone in the background, lost it wholly in the lower portions of the dress, with but faint echoes on the hand and palette, which last two portions are but slightly, yet most expressively, indicated. The luminous qualities of the picture are distinguishable year, in the abdown their dearth cleaners. able even in the shadows, their depth, clearness, and wealth of broken tones telling with the force and wealth of broken tones telling with the force of an irresistible charm on the spectator, who sees in this work the culmination, carried, it may be, to some slight excess, of the peculiar and original style of the greatest of Dutch chiaroscurists. It is supposed to be the last of the many portraits of himself that Rembrandt painted. He is old, out of health, and sad, an unwholesome puffiness marks every feature, blunting, yet not degrading, those lineaments which, if never very refined, always exhibited the genius within, and never did so exhibited the genius within, and never did so with profounder pathos than in this case. That fine, "fluffy," and abundant hair has become with profounder pathos than in this case. That fine, "fliffy," and abundant hair has become very thin and grey, yet it recalls the locks which once clustered thickly about this face, as in the picture of himself with Saskia on his knees, gallantly drinking her health in a tall glass of wine, a picture which adorns the Dresden Gallery. The portraits of a man in joyful youth glass of wine, a picture which adorns the Dresden Gallery. The portraits of a man in joyful youth and declining age offer a pathetic contrast. When that before us now was painted, Saskia had been dead for many a year, and Rembrandt's fortunes, once so high, had faded like his face. The portraits by Hals, between which this Rem-The portraits by Hals, between which this Rembrandthangs, have nothing patheticabout them, and while their riancy is beyond doubt, it is common almost to vulgarity. The Rembrandt was formerly in the collection of the Count de Vienne, in Paris, from which it was sold, it is said, for 19l. Reynolds saw it with a delight which we can easily understand, in the Danoot Gallery at Brussels, while he was on his travels in the Low Countries in 1781. At the sale of the Danoot pictures, in 1820, it fetched 800*l.*, and was bought by Buchman, who sold it to Lord Lansdowne. It is No. 207 in Smith's Catalogue. Lansdowne. It is No. 207 in Smith's Catalogue. There is here a fine early Rembrandt, painted in sweet, soft, golden tones, with great precision and care, Portrait of a Lady (59), holding a small book, and belonging to Sir Matthew Wilson, of Eshton Hall, Gargrave, a most interesting picture, and Potiphar's Wife Accusing Joseph (130), which we have mentioned before in connexion with Mr. Ayscough Fawkes's 'Rembrandt's Daughter,'

To Sir Matthew Wilson the public is indebted

for the loan of by far the most important Rubens in this gathering, the small, but entirely autographic Cymon and Iphigenia (45), now hanging at the side of a door in Gallery II. This gem is a most brilliant, rich, and careful study for a larger picture, which was doubtless intended to be carried out, after the custom of the workshop in Antwerp, by the master's pupils, but it was never, so far as we can ascertain, really so used. This seems to be the picture named by Smith as sold with the Van Loo Collection, in 1713, for 1,000 florins (90L). The dimensions of the pictures, if they are not the same, differ in size as well as in proportions. The picture from Eshton Hall belonged to Dr. Richardson, of Bierley, near Bradford, about one hundred and twenty years ago. The correspondence of this person was published, but we have not been able to procure a copy of the book. He seems to have been a considerable collector in his time. Cymon has come suddenly on the naked nymphs, who are lying on blue, and white, and red, and purple draperies, under the boughs of enormous trees, the morning shadows of which fall cool on the sumptuous and unveiled charms of the damsels. The wonderful good fortune which attended the composition of the sleeping figures, the intervolving lines of their long limbs, the curving of their bodies, the superb abandonment of their attitudes, the magnificent art with which their varied tints have been combined with the great masses of the chiaroscuro, to say nothing of the landscape,—all these are remarkable elements of this noble work, and make it one of the most nearly perfect productions of Rubens in his best time.

his best time.

The next Rubens is not so good. It is Lord Methuen's Wolf Hunt (55), a repetition of the large picture in the Ashburton Collection, the renowned 'Chasse au Loup,' which was here in 1871, and was engraved by Soutman and Troyes, and the same design, with variations, by Leeuw and Termini—see Schneevoogt's Catalogue, pp. 227-8, and Smith, No. 925. Lord Methuen's picture is a smaller and inferior version, almost entirely the work of pupils, Snyders's hand being obvious in the animals, while some less able brush than his has been employed on the mounted gentleman, a figure said to represent Rubens himself (?), and the amozone, said to have been intended for his wife, Elizabeth Brandt, who rides by the side of the latter. The better version is admitted to contain touches of Snyders and Wildens. Lord Methuen's Portrait of a Gentleman, by Rubens (65), has been over-restored. Sir W. Miles's Woman Taken in Adultery (75) presents very considerable difficulties to the critics of Rubens. It was sold with Mr. H. Hope's Collection, in 1816, for 2,100l. It need not detain the visitor, who will find 'Cymon and Iphigenia' on one hand, and Lord Darnley's magnificent Queen Tomyris with the Head of Cyrus (99) on the other. Of the Rubenses in this country, few are more valuable and characteristic than this superbexample of the highest qualities of the master. It comprises nearly twenty life-size figures, and is in perfect condition. The greater portion of the work isfrom the hands of Rubens, and it must strike every one that if Rubens ever owed anything to Paolo Veronese, it was on account of this picture. The treatment and the colour, the marvellous bravura of the painting, thought, and design—bravura that is free from vulgarity, full of motion, not violent, and by no means without tragic, if somewhat theatrical dignity—compel our admiration. We recognize Rubens's wife in more than one face here, while the boy standing by Tomyris seems to be the son. The painting was in the Orleans Gallery. From that collection it wa

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Lawrence Collection, and afterwards in that of the King of Holland. There is another version, or King of Holland. rather a different design, for this subject, by Rubens, in the Louvre (No. 433), in which Tomyris sits on a throne placed on a dais, and is attended by her ladies, as here. The soldier plunges the head of Cyrus into a vessel which is very similar to that in the picture before us. The picture for-merly belonged to the gallery of the Luxembourg, and came from the old French Royal Collection; in it, as in Lord Darnley's masterpiece, the figures are of about the size of life. Of course, a careful observer can detect in both these examples certain portions which are the work of pupils, but the chief charm of Lord Darnley's lies in the wonderfully dramatic and energetic design, the vigour which the most sumptuous colour has been employed, and the admirable picturesqueness of the subordinate elements. Raphael's pillars of "The Beautiful Gate" will be recognized in the background. Particularly noticeable for technical qualities are the fine figure of the knight, who leans with both hands on his mace, and seems to note the triumphant spite of Tomyris with a cynical smile, and the man in red, with the quaint fur cap, who stoops a little forward, having his hands linked behind him, a figure Rubens was fond of repeating with certain variations. The picture has not received in all its parts equal attention from Rubens. For instance, the bare back of the youth who is about to plunge the head of Cyrus in the golden vase is in a crude state. Yet on the whole this is one of the most superb "gallery pictures" in Europe. We suppose the subject must have had uncommon attractions for Rubens, as the effort to repeat the same in two works of such dimensions and elaboration must have been great indeed. Lord Darnley's picture was one of the "Art Treasures" at Manchester, 1857, and was exhibited at the British Institution in 1822. Another Rubens is the Virgin and Child (105), which has been so very completely cleaned that it is now at least as bright as when it was new. It is an extremely interesting and happy composition, with many beautiful points of action and expression.

The view of St. Mark's, and the Doge's Palace, Venice (49), the property of Sir J. Neeld, is a Canaletto so brilliant and rich in colour that it might be expected to please Turner. It is evident that some chance view of the subject charmed the generally prosaic Venetian, and stimulated him to paint the great church in a lovely and poetic fashion. The picture gives an angle view of the façade of St.

Mark's facing the Piazzetts, with the columns in the mid-distance, and San Giorgio beyond, the whole in bright sunlight. There is a capital and highly characteristic example of Canaletto's powers in a Bridge at Verona (239). It shows great strength of tints and the artist's firmness of touch.—Among the most acceptable of the contributions of Mr. Robarts is A. Vandevelde's Mounted Cavatier (51), sedately riding on a black jennet; a figure marked by rare spontaneity of design, full of expression and appropriate action, precise in finish, and dexterous in touch, so as to be, on the whole, quite worthy of exceptional attention. A. Vandevelde's figures are by no means frequent, and this is one of the best that we have met with. Baron F. de Rothschild lends a pair of landscapes by this artist, Landscape and Cattle (211) and Landscape and Figures (213), both signed and dated, and thoroughly good specimens of their kind.-This gathering can boast of some excellent Tenierses, more than one of them famous. First comes the Queen's Village Festival (52), exhibiting, it must be admitted, looser, or rather less precise execu-tion, and more heaviness than usual. It is signed and dated 1649, and was formerly in the collection of the Prince of Orange, bought for the Royal Collection of M. Delahante for 1,500 guineas (Smith, 498). It is the picture with the couple dancing in the centre to the music of a bag-piper. Wilkie highly appreciated this example. Another admirable specimen of the painter comes from the collection of Baron F. de Rothschild, A

Kermesse (58), a well-known work, about which it would be difficult to say anything new. to our minds, a sounder and more thoroughly characteristic specimen of Teniers's art than the 'Village Festival,' is Mr. Robarts's Interior of a Village Inn (85); yet we must admit that it is comparatively cold and hard. It is a capital example of the artist's skill between the grey and the yellow styles. Dr. Waagen praised its warmth and depth of tone as approaching Van Ostade's. Depth of tone it certainly has, but it has little of Van Ostade's warmth. Peasants are seated and drinking at a table. A woman brings a plate of food and a jug from a cellar. Another Teniers comes from the collection of Sir H. H. Campbell; it is The Interior of a Guardhouse (117). This is, perhaps, the most characteristic of the master's works in this Exhibition: it may be identified by the figure of a soldier seated at a table with his back to us, and wearing a bright, light yellow coat. The precision and delicacy of the touch shown in all the details are marvellous. Indeed these qualities were never more fortunately displayed than here. Much of the still life, especially the armour heaped on the floor on our left, the drum, and other accessories, are examples of searching execution, that becomes even mechanical. The background is intensely clear in light and shade, and rich in varieties of the same, but it is cold and, possibly, a little over defined. Precision, that precious technical quality, to which we have already called attention, is conspicuous here. One needs to have been a painter adequately to appreciate it. Lady E. Pringle's The Gardener (135), an old man in a blue coat, wheeling a barrow full of cabbages, an old woman at a doorway, poultry, a pig, and other favourite elements of a design by Teniers, does not interest us much, but it is a good

Eleven Van Dycks might form a gallery of themselves, if they were all so fine as that which we have already mentioned as the property of the Marquis of Lansdowne, and called "the Pearl," on account of its peculiar delicacy, and the fineness of the greyish white silk dress which Henrietta Maria (100) She is standing at the side of a table, with her right hand resting on the royal crown of Eng-land. The fanciful among her contemporaries may have noticed that the artist has, with or without forethought and malice, made the queen's finger trifle affectionately, so to say, with a large fleur de lis which rises from the rim of the coronet. On the whole, this is the most beautiful portrait of the queen that we know of; the colour of the dress is very lovely indeed, and made a perfect study by the accessories, cerise ribbons in the hair, on the corsage and skirts, and the yellow and black brocaded curtain, which, a reminiscence of the Genoese time of Van Dyck, hangs behind the head. It is evidently a marvel of fidelity: there is a faint tinge of rouge on the queen's greenish flesh; her long, big nose, her liquid chestnut eyes, with their lewd expression, and her large fleshy lips, are very striking features of a face which has been studied under many inspirations. The portrait seems to have been produced quite early in Van Dyck's career in this country. The queen was twenty-two years old when, in 1631, he first painted her; and the face quite agrees with this date, but not the somewhat lean and meagre bust, and the lack of plumpness. One authority says this picture came from Spain, another that it was brought from Italy; it was imported about thirty years ago: beyond this its pedigree is not known to us. It was sold at "Christie's," in 1842, for 500 guineas. There are several versions of the queen's portrait more or less like this one in design, as at Windsor, the portrait which is said to have hung in Charles's bed-room. There are similar works in the Marlborough Collection, at Bath House, in the Hermitage at St. Petersburg, at Althorp, at the Grove, and others belonging to the Duke of Grafton, and to the Duke of Buccleuch.

One could not wish for a better example of Van Dyck's Genoese manner of painting than the capital Portrait of Don Livio Odescalchi (56), from Marchmont House, a picture of black and

white, with flesh almost as ruddy as a Veronese, The introduction of the grey ruff between the carnations and the sable doublet plainly indicates the influence of P. Veronese on the Flemish artist. This portrait was sold from the col-lection of the Earl of Ashburnham, in 1850, for 472l. It is full of spirit and sober character, and quite spontaneous in its action and expression. Sir Matthew Wilson has sent a Portrait of King Charles the First (98), by Van Dyck, which is extremely interesting on account of the motive of its design. We presume it to be one of several painted to serve a political purpose, and intended for distribution among certain supporters of the king's policy—men who might be supposed likely to be affected by the appeal to their feelings which is involved in painting their royal master in the act of declaring his preference for a heavenly kingdom over an earthly one. The picture may have been an adaptation of a Van Dyck, adapted after the king's death. The king, clad in armour, except his head, stands nearly in full face, and looks forward with that martyr-like expression on his composed and sedate, but cold and haughty features, which goes to form a face that betrays the least possible sympathy for any one but the owner. A curiously interesting face it is, and full of meanings, which help to explain much that is hard to understand by any other means. In the left hand is a leading staff, an emblem of mundane military authority, introduced here, no doubt, intentionally. Placed on a table at the king's side, and under his extended right hand, is a large sphere of crystal, or globe of clear glass, in which are represented the blue firmament and the sun-tinted clouds of the celestial kingdom for which Charles was supposed to be thus declaring his preference above all earthly realms. Near him lie the British crown and sceptre, which have been significantly placed in subordination to the crystal sphere. We fancy the picture, if a Van Dyck, must have undergone extensive injuries and repairs, as the eyes and the drawing and painting of the foreshortened right arm show. There is, or was, in the possession of Earl Poulett, at Hinton St. George, a similar portrait to this one, of the same size, by Van Dyck, and mentioned by Smith, No. 455. The sphere is found in other portraits by this painter, e.g., in that glorious one of the 'Countess of Southampton,' which is among the greatest treasures of the collection in St. James's Square, and for which the Duke of Devonshire has, at Holker, a most beautiful, richly toned and coloured study in small. Lord Methuen's Betrayal of Christ (109), although it cannot please as a piece of painting per se, is a most remarkably energetic example of Van Dyck's power in designing vigorous action and composing numerous figures in a way which suits the motive of the subject. Dr. Waagen thought it an early picture, showing the influence of Rubens. No doubt the latter statement is correct, but the former one appears to be less exact. The work seems to us to betray want of care rather than of experience. Van Dyck's early pictures are by no means those which showed the fewest signs of care ; on the contrary, he never painted with more elegant precision and diligence, or with more feeling for what one may call the rights of the brush, than while he was with Rubens, or soon after he left Antwerp. The whole-length Portrait of John, Earl of Peterborough (128), standing, in a scarlet coat, and as if in the act of moving to the front, while he draws back a curtain with his right hand, seems to us to be a school version of a good Van Dyck. The face is quite unworthy of that master's hand in its sentiment and expression, the state of the carnations, and the purity of the shadows; nor is it easy to accept the red of the dress as successfully harmonized and enriched after the master's mode. Pendent to this hangs a much more interesting Van Dyck, being Lord Methuen's noble whole-length Portrait of James Stuart, Duke of Richmond and Lennox (138). He was one of the five sons of Esmé (sic), Duke of Lennox, and among the most devoted adherents of Charles , '77

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Methuen's uart, Duke

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the First. With three other nobles he made that chivalrous offer—which they must have known would not be accepted—to substitute their own heads for that of the king. After the execution of Charles, the Duke retired abroad, and died in heads for that of the king. After the execution of Charles, the Duke retired abroad, and died in 1655, not, as has been said, of grief for his master's death. He was the fourth Duke of Lennox; [his brothers, John and Bernard—whom, by the way, Van Dyck painted in a splendid group, of which there are differing versions in the De Grey Collection, and at Cobham Hall—were slain in battle; the Lord John commanded some Royalist light horse, and March 29, 1644, rashly attacked Waller on Cheriton Down, and paid for his impetuosity with his life. He was buried in Christ Church, Oxford, by the side of his brother George, Lord Aubigny. Lord Bernard commanded the Guards at Naseby, and was killed in a skirmish at Rowton Heath, Cheshire, September 26, 1645. Van Dyck painted George, Lord Aubigny, a portrait now at Cobham, in the possession of the Earl of Darnley. James Stuart is represented at whole-length, in black, with a light wig; the figure is in three-quarters view to our left, and shows green stockings setting in wrinkles about the legs of the wearer, legs which, owing to the high-heeled boots on which he is perched and was accustomed to wear, are curiously withered and shrunken. Notice the awkward, but perched and was accustomed to wear, are curiously perched and was accustomed to wear, are curiously withered and shrunken. Notice the awkward, but faithfully rendered action of the ill-poised limbs, the centre of gravity of the entire figure being placed unnaturally by the preposterous boots, which give the man so ungainly an air. The left hand is on the head of a dog, who draws his graceful form close to his master's knees, with an expression of the profoundest sympathy, thus forming a beautiful and pathetic design, expressing the history of the attachment between this animal and Duke James: the dog is said to have saved his Duke James; the dog is said to have saved his master on an occasion when, while the Duke was alseping, his life was threatened by robbers. There is a portrait of this Duke, with the dog, in "Lodge," taken from a Van Dyck, and engraved by Fry, and there are numerous likenesses of the same and there are numerous likenesses of the same nobleman, respectively engraved by Houbraken in the 'Illustrious Heads,' after Van Dyck; by Voerst, after Geldrop; by R. Earlom, after Van Dyck, a whole-length; and others by Hollar, Faithorne, and Vaughan. Van Dyck painted the Duke on more than one occasion. There is a well-known whole-length of him, like this in klock at Dyketit Relacated heldreine. There is a well-known whole-length of him, like this in black, at Dalkeith Palace, and belonging to the Duke of Buccleuch. A half-length, as 'Paris,' with a pomegranate in the left hand, the figure wearing a white shirt, was at the National Potrait Exhibition, 1866, lent by Mr. R. Pole Carew. A second version, the property of the Marquis of Bristol, was No. 85 in the Royal Academy Winter Exhibition, 1875, and exceeded. Carew. A second version, the property of the Marquis of Bristol, was No. 85 in the Royal Academy Winter Exhibition, 1875, and errone-ously styled 'The Earl of Richmond.' A third version, which belonged to the Collection of Louis XIV., is in the Louivre, No. 151. A fourth is at Penshurst, others are at the Grove and at Petworth. There are thus several versions or copies of this 'Paris' portrait of the Duke, and we believe some of them are supposed to represent Van Dyck himself! Lord Denbigh possesses a fine whole-length, like that before us now, with the dog; and there is a capital repetition in the collection of Lord Darnley. The Duke of Richmond has Duke James's portrait, with the garter jewel. The picture now in the Academy is supposed to be the original of its class, and that which Houbraken engraved so well, and of which there are said to be four versions.

Sir A. More's fine Portrait of Sir T. Gresham (62), holding an orange, a fruit which he is said to have introduced to England, is a capital work. There are other portraits of this worthy by More, all excellent; this is one of the most masculine of the number. Mr. Graham's Portrait of a Lady (166), by this painter, should be examined with are. More's works sometimes bear the name of Holbein. See the first-rate 'Portrait of a Lady' in the Althorn Gallery now at South Kensington.

See the first-rate 'Portrait of a Lady' in the Althorp Gallery, now at South Kensington. OLYMPIA AND MYCENÆ.

A GERMAN Correspondent sends us the following notes:—"At Olympia the last few weeks have been rich in fortunate discoveries. More fragments of the four steeds on the right side of the Eastern Pediment have come to light: this time, Eastern Pediment have come to light: this time, halves of a couple of horses which were hewn out of the same block of marble, and give us an idea of the thickness of the relief in which the last two horses next the wall of the pediment were worked, and also indicate how far one steed was thrust before the other. Besides, at about 28 mètres from the second pillar (reckoned from the north side) of the east front a female Torso has been discovered, who measures from the neck down to the middle of the belly 0.80 m. The dress of the figure consists of a simple chiton fastened over the shoulders. The attitude can still be fully determined from the fragments that have been recovered. The the fragments that have been recovered. The the fragments that have been recovered. The figure was in a quiet standing posture, and must have bent her head towards the left shoulder, for her head rested on her left hand; the left elbow she supported on the right hand held before her bosom. This Torso must be the statue either of Sterope, the wife of Oenomaus, or of Hippodameia, the bride of Pelops. Exactly in the same neighbourhood was unearthed, just after the arrival of Prof. Curtius at Olympia, a man's head, the rich locks of which were confined by a diadem. Also, before the west front the soil begins to disclose the fragments of the fights of the Lapithæ and Centaurs, from the pediment groups begins to disclose the fragments of the fights of the Lapithæ and Centaurs, from the pediment groups of Alcamenes. There have been found two heads—the head of one of the women of the Lapithæ carried off by the Centaurs, and the head of a Lapith whose painfully distorted face shows traces of the combat in which he is engaged with his savage opponent. A judgment on the style of all these fragments, and further details regarding them, can only be given after the arrival of drawings. As yet simply descriptions are known here ings. As yet simply descriptions are known here which have been embodied in the ninth and tenth reports of the Directors in the German Reichsanzeiger. There is further announced the discovery of a very much shattered head, found on the north side of the temple, which, perhaps, will turn out to belong to one of the Offerings placed there. Finally, the bust has been unearthed, together with the inscription of the statue of the Rhetorician Gorgias mentioned by Pausanias (VI. 17, 7).

"Owing to the active exertions of the German Embassy at Athens we have received more precise details concerning Dr. Schliemann's excavations at Mycenæ, and so Prof. Adler was able, at the sitting of the Berlin Archeological Society, on the 2nd inst, to give a lively and, in the most important points, clear picture of the excavations.

"According to these accounts, Schliemann made his rich discoveries within the wall ring of the old Acropolis of Mycenæ. He first dug in the highest portion of the citadel, within the apparently oldest fortifications, but without finding anything. Then he went further down, and there came upon a sort of cistern and the traces of an old subterranean watersystem. This is believed to be the city fountain ($\Pi \epsilon \rho \sigma \epsilon (a)$) which Pausanias saw (II. 16, 6). At last the explorer attacked a huge circular ring of stones near some traces of the foundations of houses. It was 18 to 20 mètres in diameter, and lay close to the Lion's Gate. It was here that the excavations began to prove successful. He had, in fact, stumbled upon the remains of a sepulchral tumulus, from which the the remains of a sepulchral tumulus, from which the conical covering of earth had long passed away, so that now the double row of stone slabs, which in a circle gave support to the mound of earth, lies exposed to the air. In the middle of this ring several shafts were sunk into the ground by Schliemann. The deepest of these came, at a depth of 8 mètres, on the solid rock of the cliff. It is these shafts that have yielded those astounding masses of gold and silver objects, and hundreds ing masses of gold and silver objects, and hundreds of fragments of other kinds, which, since the excavations were suddenly and mysteriously brought to a close by Schliemann's abrupt departure, on the 16th of December, have been placed in the

state bank at Athens. The official inventory is

state bank at Athens. The official inventory is reported to contain over one thousand entries.

"The finds in these great shafts are said to have begun with fragments of gold plates, which were found scattered in the earth, and could be put together, so as to form great laurel-like leaves, of a length of forty centimètres, and a breadth of ten. However, under these the workmen came on numerous graves of male and female forms, out of which that wealth of gold masks, buttons, sword handles, brooches, &c., of which every one has heard, was taken. About the style of these objects we are not yet, unfortunately, sufficiently informed. The reports speak much of ornamented bands of spiral form, and plaited together in an irregular fashion, by which one is certainly reminded of Gell's discoveries in the so-called Treasure House of Atreus, in Mycenæ. Then Treasure House of Atreus, in Mycense. Then there are said to be, upon certain stone slabs, which are supposed to be grave pillars, figures of warriors in chariots, in the attitude of piercing an adversary with a lance.
"Schliemann has also ransacked one of the tumuli

outside the wall rirg of Mycenæ, that which lies next it in the lower town, but without finding anything of importance."

Fine-Art Gossip.

THE Council of the Royal Academy for the current year consists of the following members, Messrs. Landseer, Calderon, Leslie, Elmore, Poynter, Cope, Woolner, and Sir J. Gilbert.

Ir is probable that Mr. Leighton, as he is fully occupied with the large mural picture designed for the adornment of the South Kensington Museum, a work the monochrome study for which Nuseum, a work the monochrome study for which was in the Royal Academy in 1873 (Athen., No. 2375, p. 569), will not send any important picture to the next summer Exhibition in Burlington Gardens. He will, however, if all goes well with the casting and chasing of the statue, be most honourably represented by 'An Athlete struggling with a Serpent,' which we described not many weeks since.

MR. HOLMAN HUNT is making good use of his newly built studio at Jerusalem in preparations for the important picture which is to occupy all his energies.

Ir is understood that the authorities of the Art-It is understood that the authorities of the Art-Department have instituted inquiries into the results of art-teaching by officials and other English-men in India, the disastrous effects of which on native workmen are but too painfully apparent to all who have considered what must be the end of attempts to graft the British "system" of design on the native practice. This and other journals have long ago and often called attention to what is going on under Government authority in India. nave long ago and oreen called attention to what is going on under Government authority in India. Mr. Poynter will serve the arts by stopping, so far as is now possible, the progress of this enormous folly, which threatens the very existence of the only original mode of decorative design which can be said to exist since China and Japan have worked for European ignorance and prostituted their inheritance in art.

The Dean of Chester is lecturing in a provincial town on 'The Historical Value of Architecture, illustrated by Chester Cathedral.' From a "restoring" Dean this is rather too bad. Dr. Howson should have remembered the historical worth of architecture before, not after, destroying the chief attraction of his cathedral. Surely he does not attach much "historical value" to Sir Gilbert Scott's patchwork!

M. PAUL DUBOIS has been elected member of the Académie des Beaux-Arts, section of Sculp-ture, in the place of M. Perraud.

Among the structures lately exhumed at Pompeii is a cabaret; on removing the obstructions at the entrance, the table used by drinkers was found in a kind of back shop, accompanied by pots of earthenware; on the walls are pictures of tavern scenes, where the people are represented, drinking and laughing, seated on wooden benches, and placed in various characteristic attitudes; inscrip-

tions traced on the wall supply explanations of the

THE death of the Rev. Thomas Hugo, the wellknown antiquary, compiler of 'The Bewick Col-lector,' and author of other works of considerable interest, is recorded as having happened on the 31st ult.

THE deaths of M. Adolphe Dillens, etcher and painter of genre, and of M. Halleux are announced by the French journals.

THE sale of the artistic effects of the late M. Diaz, the distinguished French landscape-painter, will take place at the Hotel Drouot on the 22nd and on the 27th inst.

WE are glad to hear that the Manx Archæological Commission has begun to meet. We hope soon to have accounts of their proceedings.

THE following sessional papers, an unusually rich list, have been promised for the ordinary general meetings of the Institute of British Architects during the current session : 'On the Temple of Diana at Epheaus, and the Hypethron of the Greeks, Jan. 22, by Mr. Fergusson; 'On Ecclesiastical Architecture of Scotland,' Feb. 5, by Mr. R. Anderson; 'Description of Manchester Town Hall,' Feb. 19, by Mr. A. Waterhouse; 'The Benedictine Abbey of St. Mary, Sherborne,' March 19, by Mr. R. H. Carpenter; 'Notes on some of the condemned City Churches,' April 9, by a Committee ; 'On St. Alban's Abbey,' April 23, by Sir G. Scott; 'On Optical Refinements of Greek Architecture,' May 28, by Mr. Penrose; 'On Architectural Restoration, its Principles and Practice,' by Mr. J. J. Stevenson.

SKETCHES OF OLD MANCHESTER AND SAL-FORD' is the title of a volume now in progress, which is expected to be ready in April next. It will contain about twenty views of old and picturesque buildings in Manchester and Salford, most of which are still standing. The pictures will be executed in photo-lithography from drawings by Mr. Thomas Ashworth, of Manchester.

OUR Lisbon Correspondent writes, under the date of 30th December :- "In consequence of the overflow and subsidence of the the river Guadiana, a funeral-field has been discovered at Mertola. It is said to be of great extent, and contains many interesting relics of antiquity. Senhor Estacio da Veiga has been commissioned by the authorities to make a study of the remains, and draw up a memoir on the

MUSIC

MENDELSSOHN'S 'ELLIAH.'

ARTISTS and amateurs who were present at the four performances of 'Elijah' in 1847, under the direction of the composer, and at the two subsequent ones in the same year, conducted by the late M. Surman, after the receipt of the news of the death of Mendelssohn, and who heard the work again on the 5th inst., when given by the Sacred Harmonic Society, in Exeter Hall, could not fail to compare notes as to the respective ensembles. Such comparisons could only result in one conclusion; and that is, that while the solo vocalization has materially deteriorated, the gain, on the other hand, in the choral singing and in the orchestral playing, has been immense. The progress, indeed, made by our choralists and instrumentalists has been most remarkable; whilst, on the other hand, where are singers like those of 1847 to be found in 1877? Two of the most powerful of living exponents of oratorio are no longer available, for reasons which need not be repeated here. Who has been heard in the casts repeated here. Who has been heard in the casts of 'Elijah'? Need we mention the names of of Elijah? Need we mention the names of Madame Jenny Lind, Madame Castellan, Madame Caradori Allan, Miss Birch, Madame Viardot, Madame Sainton Dolby, Miss B. Hawes, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Lockey, Herr Staudigl, Herr Pischek, Herr Formes, Mr. Henry Phillips, Mr. Weiss, Mr. Machin, Mr. Santley, &c.? Other names could be added easily to swell the list of really effective artists who have sung in the 'Elijah.' What vocalists can now be secured are so few in number that their engagements must be made for months beforehand, and the great increase of choral societies in the provinces renders the difficulty of complete casts in oratorio for the metropolis greater every year. Madame Patey, on the 5th, stood alone as a worthy successor of her great predecessors. The soprano music in the 'Elijah' never did come within the means of Madame Lemmens, clever as she is. Mr. George Fox possesses neither the style nor the solidity of voice needed to do justice to the Prophet. There was a tenor new to Exeter Hall, Mr. Wilford Morgan, who sang at the Royal Italian Opera, and whose organ, like that of Mr. Vernon Rigby, has a very strong resemblance to the timbre of Mr. Sims Reeves's voice. Mr. Morgan was correct, but was, it is said, suffering from a sore throat. The singing of the artists in the subsidiary parts did not inspire the hope that they may rise to be principals. No surprise can be felt that it was from the masses that the manifold beauties of the score were developed. It would be but faint praise to say that the choralists were, in the main, note perfect; that their intonation was rarely faulty; and that their attacks of the points were prompt and precise. The really prominent and striking feature of the delivery of the choral sections was the vivid colouring imparted to the varied dramatic situa-tions. Whether in the language of plaint, the expression of devotional feeling, the voice of supplication, the exclamations of derision, the invocations of Baal, and the outbreak of jubilant thanksgiving, it would be difficult to recall any choral singing superior, if indeed equal, to that in Exeter Hall on the 5th. The contrasts of light and shade were observed with an exactitude which proved how careful has been the training of the choral body, and how completely the singers are now under command. Constant practice and strict discipline have achieved this extraordinary advance in part-singing. It is not necessary to dwell specially on the excellence of the execution of the rich undercurrent of instrumentation with which the genius of Mendelssohn has so enriched the score of the 'Elijah.' The innermost intentions of the composer were developed with a precision and finish, delicacy and refinement, that showed what a conductor can do besides insuring mere accuracy in mechanical details. In short, the reading of the score of 'Elijah,' so far as the capacity, skill, and power of chorus and band are concerned, was marred by fewer blemishes than on any former occasion.

MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS.

HAYDN'S répertoire would seem to be inex-haustible, for Mr. Arthur Chappell has for nineteen seasons been introducing the quartets, trios, sonatas, &c., of the great master of symphony, and still is there a rich mine un-explored. Both erudite professors and accomplished amateurs are astounded at every fresh specimen of Haydn's fancy and imagination, of his never-ceasing charm and geniality, of the tuneful results he achieves apparently by the simplest means. The String Quartet, in c major, Op. No. 2, so ably executed by MM. Straus, L. Ries, Zerbini, and Piatti, in the reopening programme of the Monday Popular Concerts on the 8th, maintains the fame of the composer, for it is fresh, vivacious, and spirited, and, above all, it is essentially melodious, -no ugliness, no attempt at discordant combinations, -such inspirations, indeed, as satisfy the exigencies of the most ardent purists, and yet delight the veriest tyros. Come what may, Haydn's music is for all time. Mozart's Divertimento, in B flat, No. 3, for strings (MM. Straus, L. Ries, Zerbini, and Reynolds), and two horns (MM. Wendtland and Standen), is more fully scored than the one in E flat, but has the same proportions as the Divertimento in D major. All the three works are popular, and perhaps the B flat is preferred. This combination of wind with stringed instruments was the precursor of other

compositions of the same class, by Beethoven, Hummel, &c. Fraulein Krebs was the pianist, selecting, as her solo display, the Sonata Appassionata, in F minor, of Beethoven, and coalescing with Signor Piatti in the Sonata, in F major, by the same composer, for piane and violoncelle, Both artists secured the approbation of the audience by their skill and taste. The vocalist was Fraulein Thekla Friedlander, who was called was Fraulein thekia Friediander, who was caused upon to repeat Bach's air, "Willst du dein Herz mir schenken?" and who sang also Schumann's Lied, "Marienwürmchen," and Schubert's "Der Jüngling an der Quelle," with equal refinement and expression. Mr. Zerbini was the accompanist.

LONDON BALLAD CONCERTS.

THE eleventh season was commenced in St. James's Hall, on the 6th inst., by an afternoon concert, the director, Mr. John Boosey, if his programme be judged, intending to adhere to the system which has secured such popularity for the London Ballad Concerts. Our ancient ditties, 'Sally in our Alley,' 'Wapping Old Stairs,' and 'The Pilgrim of Love,' of Bishop, were as keenly relished by the vast audience assembled last Saturday as the modern ballads of Virginia Gabriel ('Dawn'), Mr. Sullivan ('Sweethearts'), and Prof. Hullah ('The Three Fishers'). The foreign element was represented by Schumann, Signor Pinsuti, and Herr Taubert, of Berlin. The new compositions were 'The Little Shepherdess,' a commonplace setting, by Mr. Molloy, of Andersen's quaint story; a ballad by Pinsuti, "Smile, and bid me live"; and an amatory strain, by Wekerlin, "I love her so," the words by Mr. John Oxenford; but no one of the three novelties has any special mark. The singers were Madame Lemmens and Miss Anna Williams, sopranos; Madame A.
Sterling, contralto; Messrs. Sims Reeves and
E. Lloyd, tenors; and Mr. Wadmore, bass.
Recalls equivalent to encores were liberally extended to all these artists, but only in one instance was the redemand obeyed, and that, mirabile dictu! was by Mr. Sims Reeves, the champion of the anti-encore movement. The London Vocal Union, under Mr. F. Walker's direction, gave Bishop's glee, 'A Cap of Wine,' Mr. Coward's part-song, "Take thy banner," and Marschner's In Autumn'; and Madame Arabella Goddard played pianoforte pieces of the fantasia or "snuffbox school," which it had been ostentatiously asserted she had quite abandoned for the classical

The first evening concert will be given on the 17th inst.

LONDON SUNDAY SCHOOL CHOIR.

A CLEVER and interesting display of part-singing was heard in the Royal Albert Hall on the evening of the 8th inst., when, under the direction of Mr. Luther Hinton, a selected choir of 1,800 voices, from the 119 schools and 6,958 members of the existing metropolitan Sunday associations, sang various compositions, amongst which the "Sleepers, wake, a voice is calling," by Mendelssohn, accompanied on the organ by Mr. Homcastle, and sustained by two trumpets (Messrs. T. Harper and Dearden), created quite a sensation. Most impressive and telling also was the hymn, "O worship the King," by the late Dr. Gauntlett; the tune called "Houghton," the words of Lord Glenelg, and one of the finest of the excep-tionally fine hymns by the gifted composer. M. Gounod's Nativity Hymn, "Bethlehem," hymn "Praise to thee," were included in the sacred selection, as also the English adaptation of the Russian hymn. Amongst the secular pieces were Herr Eranz Abt's part-song, 'The Foot Traveller; and Mr. W. F. Sherwin's "Sound the Battle Cry." Mr. R. A. Smith's anthem, "How beautiful upon the mountains," terminated a concert which proved the marked progress made by the young and sympathetic singers.

Musical Gossip.

HAYDN'S 'Creation' will be performed by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, under Mr.

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Barnby's direction, on the 18th inst. The Saturday series of Popular Concerts will be recommenced on the 13th (this afternoon).

SIR MICHAEL COSTA'S oratorio 'Eli' has been twice given in the Town Hall, Melbourne, last October, and a third performance of the work October, and a third performance of the work was promised, so great was the success. There were more than 2,000 persons present on each consion, and, despite the prohibition against encores, the unaccompanied quartet, "We bless you in the name of the Lord," had to be sung twice. The solo singers were Mrs. Herz, soprano, twice. The solo singers were Mrs. Herz, soprano, Mrs. Cutter, contralto, Mr. Beaumont, tenor, and Messrs. Angus (Eli), Lamble, and Moroney, basses. Mr. Julius Herz was the conductor. There were 250 voices in the chorus, with full band, organ, and two harps. Mr. Guenett was the organist. The Age, the Argus, the Telegraph, &c. (the local journals), contain highly eulogistic notices of 'Eli,' as well as of the execution of the work. 'Nasman.' Sir M. Costa's second oratoric. notices of 'Kli,' as well as of the execution of the work. 'Naaman,' Sir M. Costa's second oratorio, was performed by the Glasgow Choral Union, under the direction of Mr. Lambeth, at Stirling (Scotland), on the 29th ult. The solo singers were Mrs. Osgood, Miss Fairman, Mr. Shakspeare, and Mr. Wadmore. The band, with Mr. Carrodus as chif d'attaque, comprised leading London players.

The complimentary farewell benefit, with a musical and dramatic programme, to Mr. John Parry, will take place at the Gaiety Theatre on the 7th of February. The binificiairs will display his vocal and pianoforte powers for the last time. Leading artists will co-operate in the 'Critic,' and in one of the entertainments of Mr. and Mrs. Garman Reed

German Reed.

THE new five-act opera, 'Biorn,' the libretto by Mr. Frank Marshall, and the music by Signor Lauro Rossi, will be produced next Monday at the Oneen's Theatre.

Mr. W. H. GLADSTONE, M.P., is engaged on a translation of Thibaut's work, 'On Purity in Musical Art,' and has added a memoir of the writer. Mr. Murray is the publisher.

The Christmas and New Year meetings of the

Tonic Sol-fa College have just been concluded at the Literary Institute, Aldersgate Street.

A LECTURE 'On English Madrigal Composers,' to be illustrated by a choir of twenty voices from our Cathedrals, &c., will be delivered on the 18th inst., at the London Institution, by Mr. W. A. Barrett, Mus. Bac. Oxon.

Signor Carlo Guasco, a tenor, who sang at Her Majesty's Theatre, and for whom Donizetti, Ricci, and Signor Verdi composed specially chief characters in many operas, died recently at Solero, near Alexandria, in Piedmont. In his will he has bequeathed 8,000*l*. to the orphan asylums of Alexandria.

MADAME FURSCH-MADIER has made a successful appearance in Brussels, in 'Aida.'

MADAME NILSSON appeared, on the 11th inst., MADAME NILSSON appeared, on the 11th inst., at the Imperial Opera-house in Vienna, in the 'Hamlet' of M. Ambroise Thomas, as Ophelia. The Swedish prima donna was to sing also in 'Lohengrin' (Elsa), 'Faust' (Marguerite), and 'The Huguenots' (Valentine). The lady sings in French, and the other artists sing in German.

HERR REINECKE has composed a new violin concerto for Herr Joachim, which the latter played at the eleventh Gewandhaus concert at Leipzig with signal success. In the programme a symphony by the young musician, Hermann Götz, who died recently, was also executed, and increased the regret felt at the premature decease of the com-

MADAME ADELINA PATTI and Madame Pauline Lucca are now delighting the Russian amateurs at the St. Petersburg Italian Opera-house.

'DIANA DE SOLANGE,' the opera by the Duke Ernest of Saxe-Coburg, was performed on Christmas Day at the Stadttheater in Nuremberg.

MISS ANNA EYRE, whose début in Paris was referred to in last week's Athenœum, is not, as was erroneously stated, Miss E. Hairs, whose nom dartiste is Mdlle. Chiomi, who is now singing

with success at concerts in the French capital, and whose successful appearance in Florence in the 'Mignon' of M. Ambroise Thomas was noticed in these columns. Mdlle, Chiomi is a pupil of the famed Madame de Lagrange.

MDLLE. ALBANI did not appear in the 'Sonnam-bula,' as was at first announced, on her return to the Théâtre Italien, in Paris, after an absence of the Theatre Italien, in Paris, after an absence of three years, but sang in Donizetti's 'Lucia,' and with signal success, on the 6th inst. The Edgardo was Signor Aramburo (the Spanish tenor, who sang at Her Majesty's Opera, Drury Lane); the Ashton, Signor Pandolfini. A mishap occurred in the "Fra Poco," the dying scena of Edgardo, owing the theatre of the state of th to the tenor singing a portion half a tone lower (despite the diapason normal) and the band accompanying him in the original key. It is not every conductor who can transpose music in a sudden emergency.

DRAMA

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE—Forry Frening, "THE FORRY THIEFER." The Vokes Family. Promiere Domestee, Miller Bossi. Double Harlequinade: Clowns to. Lauri and F. Evans: Aller Bossi. Double Harlequinade: Clowns to. Lauri and F. Evans: Harlequina à la Watteau, Miss Amy Rosalind. Preceded by a POPULAR FARCE.—Prices from 6t 0: 4. 4. Doors open at 6: 80, commence at 7. Box-Office open from Ten to Five dully. Morning Ferformances very Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Doors open at 1: 0: commence at 1: 10: commence at 1: c

THE WEEK.

St. James's.—'The Danischeffs.' Adapted from the French. In Four Acts. AQUARIUM.—'Heroes,' a Comedy, in Three Acts. By Conway Edwardes.

Some ingenuity is displayed in the manner in which the well-known play of MM. Dumas fils and Pierre Newski has been fitted to the English stage. What was felt to be the crucial difficulty of 'Les Danicheff' is removed. The heroine, and the freedman she has been compelled to marry, no longer dwell in the same hut in a closeness of intimacy that renders all but incredible the self-denial the husband is supposed to exercise. So soon as the marriage blessing is spoken, Osip departs for St. Petersburg to seek from the Czar a release from his vows, and leaves Anna a resident in the house of the Danischeffs. By this contrivance the kind of moral shock produced by the original is avoided. It is doubtful, however, whether this advantage is not dearly purchased. A man such as Osip is depicted, is not likely to give up his bride without an attempt to win from her some display of reciprocal affection. Neither is the Countess Danischeff the woman to see unmoved such a defiance of her wishes as is involved in the continued residence in her house of a woman she has sought to banish to the most remote portion of her estates. Those difficulties which are inherent in the translation are supplemented by others for which the actors are responsible. We thus see Anna, at the commencement of the third act, greeting Osip with a trusting and caressing tenderness, natural enough under the circumstances existing in the original play, but inconceivable under those now presented. A woman compelled to esponse a man who loves her, but from whom, in consequence of an overwhelming passion for another, she shrinks, obtaining from the husband forced upon her a complete immunity from persecution, and seeing herself able to dwell at leisure upon the dreams of happiness she loves to shape, may well feel a sentiment of affectionate and trustful gratitude to one who, having her happiness in his power, has guarded it at such cost of selfdenial and personal suffering. It is different, however, when the man has quitted her side

at the conclusion of the wedding ceremony, and has but now returned. As his heroic surrender is not less, her gratitude and admi-ration may attain equal development. They cannot, however, be accompanied by the personal tenderness which finds demonstration in caresses. The coyness a woman must feel in the presence of one who is practically a stranger to her, and is possessed of absolute empire over her, is enhanced by fear lest the virtue which has remained intact during absence may prove too weak to face the sterner ordeal to which it is now to be

We have dwelt at some length upon this point, because it illustrates the kind of difficulty the adapter has continually to face. So long as our stage is principally dependent upon translations from the French, it is necessary that the best system of fitting French intrigues to English tastes should be ascertained. In the present case, the required effect would have been obtained had the husband placed the wife he had married, and might never hope to claim, in some cottage of his own, under sacerdotal protection, and started upon his self-imposed pilgrimage. As it is, from the moment the changed action commences, the spectator feels that the characters lay down their natures, never to reassume them. The Countess, in whom pride has overridden all natural feelings, developes into a commonplace and complaisant woman ; and Anna, whose sorrows and devotion have won for her our heartiest sympathy, appears scarcely free from an imputation of coquetry. Thus, though much pains have been taken with the translation, and though a fair rendering is given of what is best in the dialogue, the dramatic grip of the story is lost. If on one side the adapter has erred in departing too far from the original, on another he damages his piece by a too liberal adherence to the dialogue. It would be wise to remove entirely a few speeches of a young French attaché, which owed their success in Paris to the political interpretation forced upon them, but which in England have no meaning what-

The interpretation comes far behind that given at the same theatre by the company of the Odéon. It is in ensemble, however, that the failure is principally noticeable. The subordinate characters remain mute and inanimate, and, instead of displaying interest in the action which is progressing, distract attention and disturb faith in the reality of what is seen, since it is difficult to believe proceedings can be real which fail to move those so closely concerned in them. Some of the types of character who, in the original, constituted a delightful feature in the entertainment, are now distasteful to the audience. A portion of the blame for this result is attributable to the spectators, who failed to see that in an attempt to present Russian life, some allowance should be made for proceedings which could not well exist in England. A larger measure of blame belongs, however, to those who, by over-accentuation of characters, destroyed their truth, and gave the performance an air of burlesque. Miss Foote's pathos was irresistible, and her performance of Anna might vie with that of her predecessor, Mdlle. Hélène Petit. Compensation for the absence of the reserve which was a marked feature in

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ed by the der Mr.

the representation of Mdlle. Petit was made in the extreme tenderness of the whole. Miss Foote obtained a complete triumph. Mr. Warner's Vladimir displayed warmth and passion, and is a noteworthy performance. Mr. Clayton gave as Osip a touching presentation of resignation and suffering, and Mr. Vezin was intelligent as Roger de Taldi. The delivery by the latter of the banter of Russian institutions was admirable. Miss Fanny Addison and Mrs. John Wood failed respectively to grasp the characters they presented. The Countess of Miss Addison lacked dignity, and Mrs. Wood's Princess Lydia was a trifle too insouciante. 'The Danischeffs,' as the play is now called, was well mounted, and was received with favour.

'Heroes,' a three-act comedy, by Mr. Conway Edwardes, produced at the Aquarium Theatre, is an imitation of the Robertsonian comedy, and possesses most of the defects and some of the merits of its school. It tells the story of a young officer compelled to sell his commission on the eve of action, and so incur a charge of cowardice, and shows him enlisting as a private, and winning back the lustre to his tarnished laurels. It has one situation which, with a little care, might be rendered effective. The principal parts are supported by Mr. Billington and Miss Meyrick, who have already appeared in the piece in the country.

To Correspondents.—F. de P.—O. St. J.—received. P. L.—Sent too late.

. By an unfortunate misprint, the novel of 'Glencairn' was attributed in last week's *Athenous to "Mrs." instead of Miss Hardy is a daughter of Sir T. D. Hardy of the Public Records Office.

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